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(The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

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From the New York Times, Dec. 3 -

CONSUMER COUNCIL FIGHTS FOOD RISES--A busy holiday season was in prospect last night for members of Congress when they return to the city for the Christmas recess. The New York City Consumer Council has sent an "action letter" to its sixty affiliated organizations urging them to organize consumer and neighborhood delegations to call on the national legislators with demands that they keep food costs from rising too sharply.

The letter urges them to demand action by Congress to continue food subsidies which are expected to be dropped before June 30, until prices on subsidy-free items of food decrease to such an extent as to balance the price increases in subsidy foods that will follow when the subsidies are removed.

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PAY LESS FOR FRYERS, LA GUARDIA ADVISES--If not today then tomorrow housewives will be able to buy fryer chickens at about 10 cents a pound under ceiling prices, Mayor La Guardia promised yesterday. In his weekly radio talk from City Hall, the Mayor described fryers as "the best buy next week" and went on to say:

"There are plenty of them. There are several car loads which came in the latter part of the week. As you know, the ceiling price is 48 cents a pound, but I would not pay 48 cents a pound. I have some assurance from the stores that because of the abundance they will give the consumer a break. If you can get the small ones at 38 cents and the larger ones at 39 cents a pound, it is a good buy."

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WHEAT SITUATION UNCHANGED IN WEEK--Little change was shown in the wheat situation last week, the demand for cash wheat and wheat flour for shipment abroad remaining active with little increase in country marketings despite reports of a better box-car situation in the Northwest.

December and May wheat and the cash article remained wedged against the ceiling prices, and the new crop months edged up slightly in sympathy with the old crop months.

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CASH LARD BUSINESS IMPROVES GREATLY, WITH HOG RECEIPTS NEAR YEAR LARGEST--A marked business improvement in cash lard has come coincident with the long anticipated start of the winter movement of the 1945 hog crop, which is expected to hit a peak in January.

Hog receipts last week were about the largest in a year, and the price dropped around 75 cents a hundred pounds on the average, with ceiling prices no longer paid, for the first time since last January. Some brokers expect the price to drop to around the Government support level unless packers can obtain sufficient labor to make full killing crews.

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SELLERS' MARKET IN SHIRTS TO HOLD--While there are some indications that the industry is beginning to produce civilian supplies the corner has by no means been turned, according to an industry survey released over the week-end by the National Association of Shirt and Pajama Manufacturers. There is little possibility that the supply problem will be met before the fall of 1946, the report declared.

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From The New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 3 -

ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA TO SHIP LITTLE WHEAT TO EUROPE IN '46 - Argentina and Australia again will play only minor roles as exporters of wheat and flour to Europe during 1946, a study of present and prospective supply strongly indicate. Each will have moderate surpluses but these will be largely needed by countries outside of Europe and as a result, the bulk of the world export trade again will be the responsibility of the United States and Canada.

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FATS AND OILS PRICES - Editorial - The wartime shortage of fats and oils is expected to continue into 1947, according to the Department of Agriculture. However, a gradual easing of the fats and oil shortage should become apparent during the next few months. Exports of these products have materially exceeded imports since 1942, so that shipments abroad added to the domestic shortage. The price outlook for fats and oils, as for a number of other major groups of farm products is for firm prices for a year or two, to be followed by a softening of quotations as world production regains prewar levels.

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COTTON MEETING STRESSES NEED FOR RESEARCH - The predominant theme of the two-day annual session of the Cotton-Textile Institute, Inc., last week was the need for technological improvements in the industry. It is encouraging to see the industry turning its attention so seriously to this field and every effort should be made to encourage this attitude.

However, as Leo Wolman, professor of economics, Columbia University, pointed out in his address, technological improvements increase the productivity of workers at a slow pace, averaging over a period of years approximately 1.5 percent gain annually in man-hour output. This is no reason for becoming discouraged over the possibilities of new developments being perfected which are designed to reduce costs, but emphasizes the need to regard the technological aspect as a long-range program....

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From The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 3.-

KRAUT CANNERS - Clyde, Ohio - Sauerkraut producers, now in the midst of a bumper packing season, are happier than they were after World War I.

The year's pack of at least 210,700 tons of cabbage is almost double last year's 117,100 tons, and is far ahead of the 1934-43 average of 162,100 tons. It's close to the record high in 1934 when 215,700 tons of cabbage went into the big wooden fermentation tanks.

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THE FARMER'S INCOME - The danger now is in a political treatment of the question (parity). Farm-bloc congressmen and senators are trying to avoid even this relatively unimportant drop in 1946. The Pace Bill would completely overhaul the parity formula and drive prices up. The Secretary of Agriculture has denounced this extreme proposition.

The bright spot in the picture is the possibility of reducing costs of production through mechanization and increased efficiency. These natural methods of maintaining the farmer's good position are what should be depended on, and not artificial legislation stimulants. Every reasonable American, therefore, should support the policy of Sec. Anderson.....

Farm Digest 2205-45-2



From The Wall St. Journal, Nov. 26 -

WISCONSIN MAKERS RUSH TO MEET DEMAND FREED BY END OF RATIONING - Plymouth, Wis. - There's a tremendous boom in the Wisconsin cheese industry.

So quickly has the natural cheese industry reacted to its removal from the red ration point list that the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association is demanding the removal of all Federal regulations. End price ceilings, it says. Abandon subsidies.

Wisconsin producers are confident that the price of cheese would climb high enough, with ceilings removed, to more than make up for the 3-3/4 cents-a-pound subsidy they want the Government to remove. The nation is hungry, these men argue, for a taste of real peace-time quality cheese.

The public can't expect fully cured cheese right away, however. Cheddar should be six months old, at least to really be tasty. It's better if it ages a year or more.

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From The Gazette, Reno, Nev., Nov. 14 -

THE STORY OF SUGAR - The answer to the question, "Where is our sugar?" is a short and unpleasant one. The sugar was not produced.

American sugar comes from these principal sources, named in order of their importance: Cuba, domestic beet sugar, the Philippines, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, domestic cane sugar. The Philippine supply was lost with the Japanese invasion of the islands in the winter of 1941-42, and reports from the islands indicate that it will be 1947 at the earliest before the Philippines will be producing commercial sugar again.

Cuba has increased her production, particularly in 1942 and 1943, but an eight months' drought which damaged cane fields in 1944 and 1945, resulted in a reduction in Cuban sugar this season. Further, the drought set back production for the coming year.

Puerto Rico has been troubled by strikes and a lack of fertilizer, and American cane sugar production is only a small part of the whole supply. Domestic beet sugar production, the second major source of American supply, has steadily dwindled through the war years due to the government's slowness in acting on a support price program....The result has been a decline of more than 12,000,000 bags of beet sugar for the last two sugar-producing seasons.

The prospect for additional sugar before the last quarter of 1946 is not encouraging, and supplies may remain tight even then. The facts of the situation give small comfort to the consumer, whose sugar supply is now one-half of the previous amount available either for home or commercial use.

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From The Dallas News, Nov. 14 -

DRIVE TO GIVE STATE FARMERS COTTON FACTS - Texas cotton farmers are to be given all the facts of cotton in a state-wide campaign to start this winter.

The campaign is part of a South-wide program now being shaped at regional meetings of planners from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, co-operating with the state agricultural colleges and extension workers of the South.

Seven basic points incorporated in the program, adopted Tuesday at the final session of the regional group representing Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri, include cotton as part of a balanced farm economy, agreement by localities as to the best variety to plant for highest yield and money return, better distribution of year-round labor by encouraging livestock and feed crops, control of livestock and feed crops, control of insect pests, better picking of the crop in order to preserve the highest grades, and better marketing. Farm Digest 2205-45-3

From The Arkansas Democrat, Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 20 -

CALL TO ARKANSAS ENTERPRISE - Somebody is going to make prefabricated houses from Arkansas lumber. Somewhere this industry will create new employment, pay profits and taxes. Why shouldn't Arkansas reap these benefits?

It's easier to get into a new industry than an old one. To speed this one along, there's a tremendous demand for housing. Pre-fab houses shouldn't be judged by the samples hastily constructed for wartime needs. Such houses can be made, and will be made, with all the strength and attractiveness of site-built housing in the moderate-price class.

This prospect is right up the state's alley. The big market is recognized to be chiefly in the smaller cities, the towns and on the farms--largely in the South and Mid-West....The opportunity isn't going to wait. If we don't make these houses, we'll be buying them from other states--many of them fabricated from our own lumber.

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From The Chicago Daily Tribune, Nov. 29 -

WARNS SLUMP WILL FOLLOW INFLATION ERA - Altho nearly all the economic forces in the United States point toward inflation for the next two years or more, the country faces deflation with all its accompanying ills thereafter unless international trade is healthy, Luther Horr, president of Research and Planning, Inc., Philadelphia, asserted yesterday. He addressed the annual convention of the National Fraternal Congress of America in the Morrison hotel.

"The largest part of the rest of the world is in an unhappy economic condition and is looking to this country for leadership and guidance," he said.

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From The New York Journal of Commerce, Nov. 30 -

RUSSIA EXPANDING RAW COTTON OUTPUT - Montreal - A five-year plan for agriculture in Russia for the period 1946-50 provides for a considerable increase in quantities of cotton produced, according to Ivan Benedictov, Deputy Commissar for Agriculture, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in a special dispatch to Canadian Textile Journal

Constantly growing needs of the Soviet Union in cotton are fully covered by that grown in the country, he said, whereas pre-revolutionary Russia had to import 60 percent of the raw cotton required by her industries....

The introduction of State distribution of seed for planting by zones and the supply of seeds to collective and State farms from special Government warehouses has the advantages that older and inferior types of cotton plant can be quickly replaced by better varieties with higher yield, greater vitality and better technical qualities. Dr. Benedictov said that all Soviet cotton fields are today sown to seed selected and developed by Soviet selectionists. Considerable work is now being done to mechanize cotton plantations of the U.S.S.R. Irrigation has also played an important part in the development of U.S.S.R. cotton growing with irrigated areas increased to 13,750,000 acres.

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From the New York Times, Dec. 3, (Cont.) -

**RELIEF ADVOCATED IN CENTRAL EUROPE**--Declaring that there is an imminent threat of large-scale starvation and disease epidemics in Central Europe, the Commission for World Council Service, an interdenominational relief agency, appealed yesterday for the admission and protection of relief to the countries of that area, particularly Germany.

Dr. Robbins W. Barstow, director of the commission, said in making this disclosure that strong representations on the subject were being sent to Government officials, including President Truman, Secretary of State James Byrnes, Secretary of War Robert Patterson, Secretary of the Treasury Fred M. Vinson and members of Congress.

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**LIQUIDATION IN CORN**--Trading in corn futures last week on the Board of Trade was largely in the way of liquidation by holders of December at ceiling prices, and all deliveries and the cash grain held at the permissible maximum.

No tenders were made on December contracts and none are anticipated in view of the severe shortage of supplies. So far the movement from the country has not come up to expectations, and brokers claim that the anticipated large after-harvest movement may not get under way until after Jan. 1 and then only if there is a spell of clear, cold weather.

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**USE OF THE GRAIN FOR FEED IS REPORTED HEAVY**--Trade in oats last week on the Board of Trade was not so heavy as recently, but 500,000 bushels were tendered on December contracts and it is understood that there is a large short interest in the current delivery representing hedges against out-of-position grain. Some feed manufacturers are said to be long on December and want the cash grain, having bought the future at a substantial discount under prevailing prices.

Owing to the shortage of cash corn use of oats for feed purposes is reported as heavy. Although this year's oats crop is the largest ever harvested the shortage of box cars has prevented more than moderate shipments from the Northwest to New England and other large consuming centers, and some points in Iowa where the crop was short have also bought from the Dakotas.

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From Herald Tribune, N.Y. Dec. 3 - - - -

**HIGHER SUPPLY IS UNLIKELY IN LOW-END CLOTH**--The optimistic outlook of John D. Small, director of the Civilian Production Administration, with regard to the increased flow of low-end clothing from factories to stores found small support from the market and trade sources here over the week end. Manufacturers from various segments of the industry assert that production continues far below capacity and that fabrics are more difficult to obtain than ever. The shortage of cottons, it is agreed, is most stringent of all, with woollens following closely.

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**BOWLES SEEKS RETAILER DATA ON UNFAIR PRICES**--Chester Bowles, Price Administrator, in a defense of Office of Price Administration pricing policies, called tonight on the National Retail Dry Goods Association to submit to him any instances of unfair pricing, so that OPA may "get at the true facts."

In a letter to Lew Hahn, general manager of the association, he said that an exhibit of merchandise sponsored by the association at the House office building here was "designed to prove that OPA prices have created difficulties for old manufactureres and allowed special privileges to new manufacturers."

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From The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 3 (Cont.)

ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC., PLANS \$16 MILLION NEWARK BREWERY - St. Louis - Anheuser-Busch, Inc., plans to spend \$16 million in constructing a new brewery at Newark, N. J., said G. A. H. Mills, secretary of the company.

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From The Baltimore Sun, Dec. 3 -

A RUBBER SURPLUS IN THE OFFING AND, ULTIMATELY, PLENTY OF TIRES - Editorial - The rubber surplus recently forecast from London and Washington by the International Study Group on Rubber may be a headache to the producers faced with the problem of finding new markets, but it is welcome news to motorists, who for the last few years, have had their own headaches over nursing their old tires along.

Thus, according to the estimates, the world will shortly have a potential production of synthetic and natural rubber amounting to some 2,900,000 tons, while requirements for the whole world during the next few years are estimated at only 1,500,000 tons. Even though the production potential probably will not be fully used, there should be enough rubber for everybody with a lot left over. It will take imagination and ingenuity to find new markets and new uses for rubber.

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From The Chicago Journal of Commerce, Nov. 29 -

'TOO MANY HOGS'; PACKER CUTS PRICE - Sioux Falls, S.D. - Many people have trouble finding bacon, but John Morrell & Co., packing plant here had too much today--on the hoof.

Jack Mitchell, head hog buyer for the company, explained a 25-cent cut under ceiling prices announced by the company was due to labor shortage, which made it impossible for the company to handle the volume of hogs which has been arriving recently.

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From The Chicago Daily Tribune, Nov. 28 -

INFLATION SOON AS CONVERSION ENDS FORECAST - America faces an "inflationary boom" which will begin its spiral once production is fully under way again, Dr. Melchior Palyi, Chicago economist, said yesterday. He addressed the final session of the annual meeting of the American Butter institute in the Drake hotel.

The American public still is adding to its vast war time savings, he said. The country is experiencing a "typical post-war recession," which he predicted will end in a few months when reconversion is accomplished and labor problems are solved.

When production is in full swing again, the national income will rise. An outburst of spending power then will occur which will bring the United States to grips with a strong "inflationary psychology," Palyi asserted.

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D14 (The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 4 -

**HOUSEWIVES FACE MEAT SHORTAGE**--Housewives recently freed from red-point rationing faced yesterday the prospects of another acute meat shortage in neighborhood butcher shops as the first of a series of threatened strikes against "Big Four" packers to force wage increases was called at the Jersey City plant of Cudahy Packing City.

Three hundred butchers, packers, cutters, maintenance workers and laborers walked off the job at 2 p.m. on orders from the international office of the United Packing House Workers of America, in Chicago, according to Russell Hatcher, president of Local 173 of the Congress of Industrial Organizations union.

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**LEHMAN SAYS UNRRA FACES A BREAKDOWN**--Herbert H. Lehman told President Truman today that unless Congress appropriates for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration soon, there will be a "breakdown" in its shipment of supplies to needy Europeans.

The director-general of the administration told White House reporters that a new authorization of \$1,350,000,000 was necessary to avoid a breakdown in shipments for February.

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**OPA ACCUSES 15 OF THE VIOLATION OF SUGAR RATIONING REGULATIONS**--With pre-Christmas supplies of sugar so low that many housewives were reported buying half pound packages of black market prices, the Office of Price Administration acted yesterday against fifteen dealers who are alleged to have sold 400,000 pounds in recent months in violation of rationing regulations.

The dealers, among whom are wholesalers and retailers, have been cited to appear at suspension hearings before an OPA commissioner in the Empire State Building, beginning today.

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**OPA ORDER BRINGS DROP IN RYE PRICE; OTHER GRAINS WEAKER**--Liquidation and stop-loss selling developed in December and May rye in leading North American markets today and prices declined the permissible limit of 5 cents a bushel, closing at the bottom. July rye here on the Board of Trade was unchanged at the ceiling and September was off 1 3/4 cents a bushel.

Selling pressure was the result of an announcement on Saturday by the Office of Price Administration that the ceiling price of old and new rye after June 1 would be \$1.42 a bushel, Chicago basis. This discouraged holders of May, which slideoff the limit quickly, support being lacking, and December followed later.

Mills were fair buyers of July wheat, presumably in connection with further sales of flour. Further Government and foreign buying is forecast, but a cut of 3 cents in the export subsidy may slow trade with some countries.

Cash wheat remains strong at ceiling prices, with Northwestern interests said to be offering storage charges for grain held in country elevators as an assurance that they will obtain the wheat when box cars are available to ship it out.

(Turn to page 5)

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec 4 -

NEW GAINS SCORED IN COTTON FUTURES - Trade and commission house demand boosted cotton futures 9 to 18 points yesterday on the New York Cotton Exchange. Local buying was influenced to some extent by reports that exports to several foreign countries would be speeded up and over-all trade support developed on the theory that the next Government crop forecast due Saturday will show a substantial cut from its Nov. 8 estimate of 9,368,000 bales.....

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GROWERS ADVISED TO HOLD COTTON, Greenwood, Miss. - Growers may profit materially by waiting for a more active market before selling the remainder of his unsold cotton, according to W. M. Garrard, general manager, Staple Cotton Co-operative Association.....

Mill buyers, Mr. Garrard pointed out, are reluctant to make forward commitments, which indicates a considerably higher basis early next year. He also emphasized that the Government guarantees a floor under all cotton in the hands of the original producer.....

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DRIED FRUIT STOCKS STILL FALLING OFF - Dried fruit traders yesterday reported a further depletion in what little spot stocks remain and an active demand for all lines, most of which now are sold out with hope of replacement growing weaker...

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SUPPLIES OF BUTTER INCREASINGLY TIGHT - Market growing increasingly short, with many stores entirely out of goods and in extremely firm position. We are steadily losing production to fluid milk and cream, on which prices at the producer level are virtually uncontrolled. All legitimate channel trading is at full ceiling limits.....

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 4 -

MORE BEEF, as well as fats, soap and sweets, will follow more pork to market. Volume of hogs slaughtered at Chicago trebled last week over the week before, and prices backed away nearly 75 cents a hundredweight from the O.P.A. ceilings.... Cattlemen will feel their own prices threatened by this, and ship more animals. This means more tallow, made from beef fat, in addition to the extra lard from the flood of pigs...Packers believe the threat of a strike in their industry caused farmers to ship even more hogs.....

BUTTER SUPPLIES are more than normally short because of price distortions. Butter production in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin, the three biggest butter states, is 20% below its level this time last year. Creamery men say that not only is the slack production meeting the strongest demand ever recorded for fresh milk, but that O.P.A. ceilings discriminate against butter.

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FLOUR EXPORT SUBSIDY PAYMENTS - Export subsidy payments by Commodity Credit Corp. on flour shipped from Atlantic or Gulf ports will be at the rate of 15 cents per 100 pounds, which is a reduction of 3 cents per 100 pounds from the rate prevailing previously. The present subsidy will remain in effect until December 17.

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From the New York Times, Dec. 2 -

WALLACE CREATES FOREIGN TRADE JOB, Washington - Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Commerce, took a step today toward the "expansion of his Department by naming Arthur Paul, former textile manufacture and since September a member of the Secretary's staff, as Special Deputy in charge of all international trade and foreign commerce operations.

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PEAK FARM INCOME SEEKS GOODS TO BUY, Chicago - The farmer has more money than ever before and his buying power will absorb "everything that can be made available for an indefinite period," the corn belt farm dailies said today....

"There is not a farm that does not need something that has been unavailable during the last few years," the farm dailies said in a review of agricultural conditions.....

Farm prosperity must be maintained by legal guarantee through 1948, the review said....

"The meaning of this guarantee is that the United States is committed to keeping farm prices above minimum levels," according to the review. "The minimum, as officially defined, is that one guarantees farmers sufficient income from the sale of farm products to operate at a profit....

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BOWLES SAYS TAX DELAYS CLOTHING, Washington - Chester Bowles, Price Administrator, blamed the continuing clothing shortage today on the "business as usual" practices of some manufacturers, accusing them of delaying shipments of textiles and clothing until after the first of the year to gain a profit "windfall" from the repeal of the wartime excess profits tax.

He ordered restrictions tightened on the Office of Price Administration's Maximum Average Price Regulation to speed the production of lower-priced apparel.

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REPORT FROM THE NATION - The Upper South, Richmond - The recent mechanical cotton picker demonstration in York County, S. C., attracted a large gathering from both North and South Carolina, and has led to much speculation concerning the inevitably powerful impact of this machine on the South's cotton economy, once it gets into large-scale production.

The major problem is what will happen to the thousands of pickers who will be displaced by the machines. At the York County demonstration the device picked 800 pounds of seed cotton in thirty-six minutes, or as much as four expert hand pickers could turn out in an entire day.

Another problem is how cotton farmers are going to afford a machine which may cost around \$5,000 with the tractor which pulls it. However, it seems to be accepted that large-scale planters will have the machines, and that less affluent ones will band together in buying one, or that communities will obtain them and rent them to farmers.

Midwest States, Omaha - Dependent upon a predominantly agricultural economy, the Midwest shares official Washington's concern over the possibility of a runaway inflation in farm-land prices. Land values have increased steadily during the war years, as they have generally throughout the nation. But in large sections of the Midwest the increase has been less gradual than elsewhere. Here the price situation can be described as potentially dangerous, but not yet alarming.

Even so, price increases are substantial when compared with prewar values. In Nebraska, for example, average farmland prices computed last July by State-Federal statisticians had increased 73 percent above the abnormal low of 1941. This sounds alarming until it is recalled that the July average was only 44 percent of 1920 inflation prices. And the current figures are still less than 25 percent above the 1935-39 average.....



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From the New York Times, Dec. 2 (Cont.) -

Pacific States, San Francisco - With banner citrus crops in prospect the West Coast was looking forward this week to a plentiful supply of deep-colored California oranges at Christmas time and afterward, but the growers themselves in the Southern California orchard areas were concerned over prospective lower prices, in some cases drastically lower....

Because of the short supplies available during the slack period the Office of Price Administration has been sharply criticized for removing price ceilings on citrus fruits the other day. Growers say that had the ceilings been removed in August, when supplies were plentiful, consumers probably would have had to pay high prices for large oranges but could have obtained the little ones at lower cost. As it was, retail prices jumped generally, with some of the large fruit going up as much as 70 percent....

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FARM LAND PRICES, Editorial - A recent report from the Federal Reserve System states that "all signs point to the rapid rise of farm land values." The present status of prices for rural property in many areas is of serious concern to agricultural leaders and to banks. Six months ago the American Bankers Association sent warning letters to banks in rural sections advocating conservative policies to help check the boom. In June the Alexander Hamilton Institute reported that farm real estate values were 50 percent above the levels of the prewar year of 1938.....

To combat the present inflated situation Mr. Fisher offers a six-point program: an educational campaign by all agencies concerned with farming and rural life, control of demand by allocation which would permit through Government control purchase of land found to be reasonable in price, restrictions on purchases through controlled mortgages, price ceilings for farm land, a special capital gains tax and a forced savings program from profits in real estate....

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 2 -

RETURN LIKELY ON U. S. AID TO BRAZIL'S FARMS - One result of the Battle of the Atlantic, a result which may well benefit the United States, is that north and northeastern Brazil is on the road to agricultural self-sufficiency, according to Kenneth J. Kadow, chief of the United States Food Mission to Brazil.

While acknowledging that agricultural development in the region --about two-thirds the size of the United States--still "has a long way to go," Mr. Kadow emphasized in a recent report that the emergency food-growing program initiated by the United States and Brazil should "advance general Brazilian health and purchasing power.".....

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From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 2 -

LET'S NOT DELAY THE UNRRA APPROPRIATION, Editorial - Not a day passes without news of misery in many parts of the world....We are likely to forget that much of the world is in the direst kind of want. It is short of food, short of clothing, short of shelter--prevented by the absence of rudimentary materials even from bringing agriculture and the primary industries back to normal.

The UNRRA was established to cope with just such emergency conditions, to provide simple human relief and a helping hand toward rehabilitation. If it is to continue to do its humanitarian work, it must have more funds. The U.S.; which is the chief contributor, still has an unpaid pledge to UNRRA of \$1,300,000,000. Congress has before it a bill to appropriate these funds. Winter is coming on. The money is desperately needed. But the House amended the bill in such fashion as to increase the difficulties of UNRRA administration. The Senate hasn't considered it at all, save in committee.....

Farm Digest 2015-45



From the New York Times, Dec. 4 (Cont.) -

**WHOLESALE ASSAIL OPA LUMBER PRICING**--Declaring that the lumber wholesaler cannot long exist under an Office of Price Administration price set-up which "compels him to buy at the mill price and sell at the mill price," the National American Wholesale Lumber Association has sent to the members of the Senate a memorandum urging that action be taken which would permit wholesalers to function on a mark-up basis, it was revealed yesterday by Sid L. Darling, secretary of the association.

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**DDT LEGISLATION BEFORE CONGRESS**--New Federal legislation to provide greater protection to the public on new types of insecticides, such as DDT, already has been embodied in bill form and presented to the House Committee on Agriculture, it was learned yesterday at the annual meeting of the National Association of Insecticide and Disinfectant Manufacturers, (here).

Dr. E. L. Griffin, assistant chief of the Insecticide Division, Livestock Branch, Department of Agriculture, told the insecticide men that existing legislation made it difficult to counteract abuses in promoting products with DDT.

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From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 4 -

**INCREASED SUGAR PRICE EARLY IN 1946 FORECAST**--Representative Domengeaux (D., La.), blaming the sugar shortage principally on "unhealthy economics and unholy politics," said tonight he had been told the retail price will go up three fourths of a cent early next year.

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**TWO ARE FINED \$18,000 IN POULTRY-CEILING CASE**--David H. Polin, and his brother, Howard M., both of Selbyville today were fined a total of \$18,000 in United States District Court after pleading guilty to selling 197,000 pounds of live poultry at above ceiling prices between February and May 1944.

Federal Judge Paul Leahy also gave them suspended jail sentences of four months, placed them on probation and ordered them to pay the fine within 60 days.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 4 --

**FRENCH BUY U. S. COTTON**--The French Purchasing Mission has bought around 40,000 bales of American cotton out of a total of 160,000 bales for which inquiries were recently made, it was reported yesterday in cotton trade circles here. Additional bids were submitted to the mission yesterday.

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**COTTON THREADS REMOVED FROM PRICE REGULATION**--Price control over cotton threads was suspended tonight the Office of Price Administration announced. The suspension covers domestic cotton threads for sewing, crocheting, darning, knitting and embroidery; cotton industrial stitching thread and cotton thread-weight goods. It applies to all levels of sale.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec, 4 (Cont.) -

COTTON QUALITY suffers from lack of experienced pickers. Cotton in the field, Agriculture Department experts will tell you, has improved during the war. Better seed has been planted. Uniformity and length of staple, two criteria of cotton quality, have increased steadily. Ginners, however, turn out lower-grade cotton from these improved plants. There aren't enough pickers, so the cotton stays in the fields after the bolls open, and gets weather-beaten. This has lessened resistance to mechanical pickers.....

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PLENTY OF FOOD for everyone will be the goal of the new farm program shaping up in the Agricultural Department. Secretary Anderson contends that if everyone has a job, there will be a market for all the U. S. farmer can raise. If everyone isn't working it will be just as cheap to subsidize a better diet for the lowest-income groups as to pay farmers for not producing.

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VEGETABLE SEEDS are in greater demand than ever before, say California growers. The expected post-war slump in next year's orders from Victory gardeners has been more than offset by larger orders from commercial growers....

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ORANGE CEILINGS may go on again, but growers think they won't. The O.P.A. removed ceiling prices on fresh citrus fruit November 19. That day some of the largest-sized Valencia oranges went at \$10 a box in the eastern markets, but dropped back to an \$8.75 top by the end of the week. Between now and January 13, the O.P.A. must make up its mind whether to restore the price limitations. California growers, however, say that the new navels, coming on the market December 15, will push prices down to where no saving for the consumer under ceilings can be shown.

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CHAIN AND MAIL ORDER SALES, Washington - Chain store and mail order sales amounted to \$1,503 million in October, the Commerce Department reported. This was 14% above September and 8% higher than October last year.....

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3. DEBATE ON WOOL QUOTAS MAY ENTER U.S.-BRITISH LOAN TALKS, Washington - A Congressional scrap over American wool policy is expected to entangle the argument over wool import quotas versus wool subsidies with debate over a multi-billion dollar loan to Britain.

The Senate wool committee is expected to come out of its executive sessions with some definite advice to the State Department regarding any British loan.....

The committee is expected to think in terms of some system setting quotas on wool imports. The committee chairman, Senator O'Mahoney (Dem., Wyo.), suggested a plan patterned after the sugar quota system. Senator Robertson (Rep., Wyo.) also a committee member, would have the Secretary of Agriculture set a price which would enable wool growers to operate at a profit. This price would be a floor under the wool market. The Commodity Credit Corp. would be empowered to purchase, at the floor price, any unsold domestic wool. Year to year import quotas would admit enough foreign wool to bridge the gap between domestic supply and demand.....

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Farm Digest 2215-45-6



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D14 (The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 5 -

ANDERSON STATES U. S. MAY SHIP 1,250,000,000 POUNDS OF MEAT TO EUROPE-- This country can, and probably will, ship 1,250,000,000 pounds of meat abroad next year and still Americans can have the meat they want, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson told a meeting of 700 Rotarians today. He said:

"Packers now are setting aside 30,000,000 pounds of meat each week for the Government, and the Department of Agriculture is getting ready to furnish needy nations 25,000,000 pounds a week if they need it."

Anderson detailed the problems confronting Federal agencies in getting rid of their wool stockpiles.

He said a sudden dumping of this country's 500,000,000 pounds of wool would hurt the market and cause the Government millions of dollars loss.

RATIONING OF SUGAR TO CONTINUE IN '46--The Agriculture Department said today that it had allocated sufficient sugar for civilians for the first quarter of 1946 "to maintain rationing at present levels."

The Department stated that the world supply of sugar in 1946 was expected to be about the same as in 1945 and there is little likelihood that sugar will be removed from rationing "for some time to come."

The announcement came a few days after some Congressional critics of the sugar program had urged an increase in the present ration of five pounds for four months per person for home use. This allowance is exclusive of special canning allotments.

U. S. TO SEND FOOD, GERMANS ARE TOLD--Hunger and starvation in Germany "have never been a United States objective," Lieut. Gen. Lucius C. Clay, American Deputy Military Governor, said today at the third meeting of the Council of State Minister Presidents in Stuttgart.

General Clay, assured the Minister Presidents that food would be sent from the United States to support the diet of 15,050 calories a day as of Jan. 1, the expenses of such supplies to be met when Germany is able to pay.

CHICAGO PACKER INDICTED--A Federal grand jury charged today that the Empire Packing Company of Chicago fraudulently accepted from the Defense Supplies Corp., subsidy payments amounting to \$1,862,704.73.

Covering the period June 7, 1943, to July 7, 1945, it alleged up-grading of meat sold, acceptance of side-payments totaling \$6,000 and false certifications on subsidy claims that there had been no violations of orders of the Office of Price Administration or of the War Food Administration during the period covered by each claim.

REPORTS DDT INCREASED POTATO CROP--The use of DDT, war developed insecticide, in experiments to control potato insects, resulted in increases of 40 to 140 bushels per acre, managers of New York institutional farms heard today. Dr. R. W. Leiby, extension entomologist of the State College of Agriculture at Cornell University said: "In thirty-five field tests we obtained forty to 140 more bus. of potatoes per acre than from similar acreages not sprayed with DDT."



From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 5 -

TWO FLIES TO TEN COWS, Editorial - A company owning a New Jersey dairy of 1,500 cows reported this week that the use of DDT on the walls of its thirty-three barns had reduced a fly population of last August to the comfortable minimum of two flies to every ten cows. This almost harmless ratio, it seems, would permit the most ornery small farm brindle to get through milking without lifting a ready hind leg.

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FROZEN FOOD INDUSTRY GAINS - More than 600,000,000 pounds of frozen foods were packed in the United States in a year, a recent survey showed. That figure compares with about 10,000,000 pounds packed six years before.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 5 -

DRESS REHEARSAL STAGED BY SENATE GROUP ON PROPOSALS TO EXTEND POWERS OF OPA - Washington - Presenting a preview of future hearings to extend the Office of Price Administration's powers beyond next June 30, the Senate Small Business Committee today opened a three weeks "forum" on OPA activities as they affect business.....

High OPA officials are hopeful that the extension hearings will start early next year in order to dispell any doubts about price control when the June 30 deadline approaches.

At the same time higher price officials hope and expect that President Harry S. Truman will make a strong statement supporting price control and OPA's fight against inflation, either in his address on the state of the Union or in a separate address or statement.....

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LIVING COSTS RISE FOR WAGE EARNERS - Living costs for the average family of wage earners and lower-salaried clerical workers in the United States recorded an increase of 0.1 per cent in October, the National Industrial Conference Board reported yesterday.....

Food costs showed a decline of 0.1 per cent during the month, while the costs of housing and fuel and light held unchanged from the September levels.

- - -

SUGAR SUBSIDY VIEWS DIFFER - Opinion in the sugar trade differs as to the Government's attitude on removal of subsidies on this commodity. As a policy Judge Collet, on October 9, reported that the Government intends to end virtually all wartime food subsidies by June 30, 1946. Some items were mentioned specifically but not sugar.....

Discussions on future policy which may effect price have been in progress in Washington. Department of Agriculture officials held conversations with trade interests last week, but no one, not even the officials themselves, have any clear cut idea of where subsidies will leave them. The reason is that it will be extremely difficult to work out details because subsidies to Cuba are paid one way, to Puerto Rico another, and on the beets still another. And they don't add up.....

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From the Salt Lake Tribune, Nov. 30. -

FARM PROFIT DROP SEEN BY EXPERTS, Logan, Utah - Predicting a decline in farm profits in future years, agricultural economists at Utah State Agricultural college Thursday warned farmers of Utah to use good economic sense when considering buying new land and in making long-term commitments.....

"We are in position for a serious land boom," the economists warned. "Three factors indicate this: (1) more money is available for investments; (2) many returning war veterans and war workers desire to enter agriculture; and (3) many non-farmers desire to protect their money by investing in land."

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From the Detroit Free Press, Dec. 1 -

EGGS FOR EUROPE-Letter-To the Editor: "If all the potential layers are permitted to produce, there would be a surplus of 25,00,000 cases or 750,000,000 dozens eggs in 1946"--elsewhere: "It is estimated that agriculture must double its present productiveness to meet the needs of the world's two billion people."

One needs a strong constitution to digest both of these statements during the same day. Not being an economist, I would inquire, is it not feasible to divert this surplus to the starving of Europe?

Dehydrated eggs do not make the tastiest dish, but only a man with a full stomach would think of an alternate preparation. K. J. Evans.

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From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Nov. 30 -

CONGRESS CRY RAISED FOR INCREASE IN SUGAR, Washington - Cries arose in Congress today for government action to ease the sugar shortage.

Both Republicans and Democrats joined in the clamor. Meanwhile, a two-way congressional investigation of the situation gathered steam.

The chief demand for federal action came from an unofficial Republican food study committee.....

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 2 -

THYE ASKS BUTTER PRICE ADJUSTMENT, Albert Lea, Minn. - Gov. Thye, speaking Saturday before the Freeborn County Farm bureau here, said he had asked the federal government to modify butter ceiling regulations.

The governor said he has sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Anderson and to OPA Administrator Bowles urging modification of present OPA butter regulations.

Declaring that during the war the creameries have been restricted on butter production by a low ceiling, the governor said he had informed Secretary Anderson that the "result of this policy of discriminating against the production of butter has been to reduce drastically the amount of butter produced"....

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 3 (Cont) -

SOIL EXPERTS REVEAL FERTILITY LOSS IN MIDWEST, PROPOSE REMEDIES - An effort is spreading to protect the finest land resource in the world. That resource is the rich land area of the Midwest.

No other garden spot on this planet begins to touch the food output of the upper Mississippi valley. But basis of that production, the matchless fertility of this region, is being steadily sapped away.....

Now that the war is over, the soil specialists at the University of Minnesota are redoubling their efforts to encourage widespread adoption of farming methods that will maintain soil productivity. Experience in parts of the world where land has been cropped successfully for hundreds and even thousands of years proves that soil conservation is practicable.

Dr. Rost and Prof. Burton recommend to farmers a five-point rotation, in which there is a proper distribution of soil conserving and soil depleting crops; next, the return of crop residues to the land; third, the conservation and application of animal manures produced on the farm; fourth, the use of good cultural and erosion control practices; and finally, the application of lime and commercial fertilizers when their use has been shown profitable. Official agencies, soil research men, conservationists, farm organizations are enlisting in this conservation effort.

It is really a fight to save the soil of an inland empire, and in so doing to safeguard the whole future of this nation.

\* \* \*

From the Alabama Farm Bureau News, Dec. -

DUGGAN SEES LOW FARM LOAN INTEREST RATES - Interest rates on agricultural loans will probably be low for years to come, I. W. Duggan, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration said today in talking at the second annual four-state farm forum sponsored by the agricultural division of the Joplin. Chamber of Commerce at Joplin, Missouri.

"Every indication points toward low interest rates in general including, of course, loans to farmers. The rate of interest charged for short-term production loans should be very moderate at least for several years and the same is true for farm mortgage interest rates and rates on loans to finance the shortage, processing and marketing of farm commodities."

Governor Duggan said one reason interest rates are likely to be low is because of the large national debt and the probable desire of the Government to make interest charges on those debts as light as possible.....

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ALL-COTTON FIRE HOSE DOESN'T NEED RUBBER - An entirely new technique for making a water-holding cotton firehose without the use of rubber lining, has been invented at the Southern Regional Research Laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana. This was done by adding to the yarn before weaving a swellable finishing material, not soluble in water, which would supplement the swelling of the cotton, thus helping to close the minute spaces within the fabric of the hose wall.

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From the New York Times, Dec. 5 (Cont.) -

OPA SEEN EASING COST ABSORPTION--The Office of Price Administration was believed today to be willing to yield slightly in its program for cost absorption by retail furniture dealers as fifty trade representatives protested the agency's data on their profits.

W. E. S. Griswold, president of W. & J. Sloane Company of New York City, acted as spokesman for the industry, presenting a 5,000 word statement to OPA describing the cost absorption policy "a distinct threat to the continued existence of the nation's smaller home goods dealers."

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COTTON PRICES UP BY 7 TO 10 POINTS--After opening 3 to 8 points higher, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange rose yesterday to new high levels for the season but sold off and closed steady 7 to 10 points higher.

The early rise was attributed to price fixing, principally in March against sales of cotton to France and Southern mills. Later when stocks and grains reacted downward, cotton followed with a slight sell-off, but remained steady even on the decline. Hedge selling also increased on the rallies.

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OLD-CROP RYE OFF FOR 2D DAY IN ROW--Liquidation was on again today in old crop rye futures and prices in leading markets closed 5 cents a bushel lower for the second consecutive day with the finish at the cotton. May rye on the Chicago Board of Trade finished at \$1.65 1/8, or 21 7/8 cents under the high rate last month and 23 1/8 cents over July, compared with 42 1/2 cents over about two weeks ago.

New crop months lost 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 cents with December under the ceiling price for the first time in about a month. Restrictions placed on the use of rye by distillers in December and the fact that old rye cannot sell above the ceiling price of \$1.42 for the 1946 harvest after June 1 furnished the background for the selling, which disclosed a lack of support.

The finish on oats was down 1 3/4 to 2 3/4 cents. Old crop deliveries of wheat were unchanged at the ceiling and the distant months lost 1 to 1 3/4 cents.

Barley finished unchanged to 1 cent down, as did corn.

Country offerings of cash corn remain small. Purchases today were 70,000 bushels. Distillers admit that the outlook for grain for beverage alcohol is gloomy. Primary receipts of 1,513,000 bushels compared with 1,635,000 a week ago and 1,142,000 a year ago. Shipments were 789,000 bushels against 716,000 last week and 468,000 last year.

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From the Wall Street Journal, New York, Dec. 5 -

GREAT LAKES BOATS FIGHT SNOW AND SLEET TO WIND-UP '45 SEASON--Combatting snow, sleet and winds, Great Lakes boats this week are moving their final cargoes of iron ore and grain to lower lake ports in the wind-up of the 1945 shipping season, already extended beyond its normal closing.

Grain has been moving in consistently good volume and total shipments for the season, according to operators here, may go as high as 350 million bushels in vessels of U. S. registry, or 10 million bushels above the quota assigned at the opening of the season.

This is a record year for grain movement on the lakes. A large portion of the grain has been sent or is scheduled to be sent to Europe, after moving down the lakes to the lower ports, principally Buffalo.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 5 (Cont) -

USDA SCRUTINIZES DRIED FRUIT STOCKS - Department of Agriculture officials are reported to be going over the dried fruit market situation "with a fine tooth comb" in response to trade demand that supplies be held back from the British interests until domestic needs have been more nearly filled....

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\$16,000,000 ADDED TO MEAT SUBSIDIES, Washington - The Government announced tonight that about \$16,000,000 in additional meat subsidies would be paid to meat packers under terms of two commitments earlier this year.

Stabilization Administrator John C. Collett said approximately \$6,000,000 of this total will meet requirements of the so-called Barkley-Bates Amendment to the Price Control Act.....

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OVERSEAS' DEMAND FOR FLOUR ACTIVE - Further sales of flour to the United Kingdom were reported yesterday, but the moderate early month flurry of domestic buying appeared to have largely run its course. Numerous export inquiries were in the market, but confirmation of additional sales was lacking....

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WOOL TRADE HELD DISRUPTED BY CONTINUED USE OF MAP - Contention of woolen and worsted manufacturers that the primary result of the Office of Price Administration; MAP regulation is to disrupt normal trade practices and impede the production figures now becoming available, it was asserted yesterday by industry spokesmen.

Wool industry observers stated that the result of MAP in the wool textile industry, as demonstrated today, has been to divert fabric production from men's wear to women's wear at a time when the men's suit shortage is most acute; has further forced mills to make light, summer weight fabrics far out of proportion to normal at a time when regular weight suits are desperately needed and has caused the withholding of some high-priced cloth and clothing at a time when clothing in all price ranges are needed.....

- - -

PRICES LOWERED FOR WOOL TOPS, Boston - Lower prices are being set on tops, following the reduction on Commodity wools. New top prices, however, will not represent fully the cut in native wool as processing operations will continue on a high price level, deliveries and other matters. From 18c to 20c may be lopped off tops made from domestic wool, bringing them nearer yet not actually down to the foreign wool level.....

- - -

COTTON PRODUCTION FOR YEAR PLACED AT 9,206,000 BALES - In its final forecast of cotton production for the 1945-46 season, The Journal of Commerce estimates production in the United States at 9,206,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight each. Compared with the original Journal of Commerce estimate issued at the beginning of August final outturn shows a decrease of 8,000 bales....



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(The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 6 -

BOWLES SEES PERIL OF ECONOMIC CRASH IF PRICE RULE ENDS--A repetition of the 1929 economic crash, but worse, faces the nation if it follows the lead of "the small minority of business pressure groups" who are seeking an end now of price and rent controls Chester A. Bowles, National Price Administrator, warned last night in an address that was widely interpreted as presaging a determined legislative attempt to continue several price controls beyond next June 30.

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SAME WHEAT PLAN FOR CANADA--The Dominion-Provincial Agriculture Conference unanimously agreed today to let next year's wheat acreage stand unchanged from 1945 at 23,414,000 acres for the whole of Canada. To help arrest decline in hog production and stimulate output of other livestock the conference recommended that barley acreage be increased to 8,000,000 acres from 7,350,000 in 1945.

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BUTTER SCARCITY LAID TO SHORTAGE OF MILK--Butter is hard to buy now, not because of its release from rationing, but principally as a result of the seasonal decline in milk production, spokesmen for the industry declared yesterday.

While housewives and restaurateurs may have been expected to seek more butter than they could purchase when it was rationed--thus causing spot shortages--increased demand for the commodity is not the reason for the current scarcity, it was emphasized.

As there is no ceiling price on the cream that goes into butter, while there is a ceiling for the butter itself, producers cannot operate profitably and the cream is being diverted to other industries, it was asserted.

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FATS, OIL SHORTAGE SEEN--The Bureau of Agricultural Economics predicted today that 1946 supplies of food fats and oils might be five or six pounds short of a potential civilian demand of fifty pounds per capita.

The fats and oils--which include butter, margarine, lard, shortening, salad and cooking oils--were removed from wartime rationing late last month. The 1945 per capita supply was estimated at about forty-two pounds.

The bureau said the most pronounced shortage next year would be butter.

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RYE CLIMBS HIGHER AFTER EARLY DROP--December and May rye broke the permissible limit of 5 cents a bushel in the early trading today for the third straight day but reports that export permits had been granted for 723,000 bushels of cash rye held in storage at Boston and Baltimore started a buying movement which was augmented later by a report that Senator Elmer Thomas, Democrat, of Oklahoma, chairman of the Senate Agricultural Committee, had called a meeting of the committee for Friday to consider the recently announced ceiling on 1946 rye crop which he regarded as most unjust to farmers. Prices advanced 6 1/8 to 8 5/8 cents a bushel from the low and closed at about the top with net gains of 7/8 cent to 3 3/8 cents.

Professional traders sold wheat futures early and covered later.

Trading in corn futures was somewhat larger with holders of December selling out and replacing with May as there is said to be little prospect of cash corn being tendered on December contracts.

(Turn to page 5)

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Farm Digest 2235-45-1



From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 6 -

COTTON MILLS SEEK WAR CONTROLS END, Washington - The American Cotton Manufacturers Association today became the first industry to formally request the Civilian Production Administration to relax its controls so full production may be speeded as a safeguard against inflation.

The request in the form of a letter from Dr. W. P. Jacobs, association president, specifically asked:

(1) Modification of MM and CC ratings to permit intergrated mills to follow their historical and normal practices.

(2) Total elimination of CC ratings and set-asides for goods to be exported.....

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TIME LIMIT NEEDED FOR WOOL PRICES, Boston - New downward price list on domestic wool has given the market a buying impulse lacking over a long period. Numerous inquiries are being made and all types of greasy and scour-ed wool are moving to the mills more freely. Commodity purchasing prices are unchanged as before but the selling price to manufacturers and processors is lower by an average of 7c in the grease and around 16c on a clean basis. As commodity holdings are estimated at 450,000,000 pounds, the actual loss to the Government in placing domestic wool on a competitive basis with foreign wool will be some \$32,000,000, which may be regarded as a war liability and not much to pay toward establishing domestic wool growing in the United States as a going concern.....

Continuing to adjust themselves to the changed situation in domestic wool, dealers are still suspicious that action by the Department of Agriculture is nothing more than a temporary expedient to handle an immense and exceedingly complex situation involving international trade in raw wool.....

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CUBA HAS EDGE IN SUGAR TALKS - As Cuba resumes negotiations with the United States for sale of its 1946 sugar, she has an interesting bargaining point which may throw calculations released yesterday on allocations for the first quarter of 1946 into a cocked hat.

Cuba by decree usually starts grinding on Jan. 15, but Cuba may decide to increase the yield of its main product by withholding the start of the grinding season for several weeks. Such a development, trade observers point out, would push back arrival of Cuban raws here and make them unavailable for first quarter use. Obviously that would reduce the present limited supply for industrial and civilian users in the United States for the first quarter.....

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U.S. AIMS TO MAKE COFFEE PLAN WORK - Come h--- or high water, the United States is intent upon holding to its coffee subsidy plan now in operation and on March 31 will revert to OPA Price Schedule No. 50-not an open market. That is the opinion of some industry men who are close to the feedbag.

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DRIED FRUITS - First dried apples of the season arrive here in moderate quantities, and are quoted firmly at ceilings. Second date cargo also arrives, but is entirely sold out in advance.

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From the Philadelphia Bulletin, Nov. 26 -

SUGAR POLICY, Editorial - Consumers, both domestic and commercial, are acutely sugar-conscious. The war-time shortage persists, and sugar is the last of the food products to remain on the ration lists. Now, when the public is concerned about sugar, is an appropriate time to consider national supply policy, which is about to come up for review because legislation controlling it will expire next year.

For 30 years our policy has been shaped around the encouragement of domestic production. Before the existing quota law expires it will be wise to weigh subsequent legislative action on reliable scales. Giving undue weight to domestic sugar-growers at the expense of export trade with a valued customer is unsound. Certainly cane and beet growers here give employment and add to the patronage of American industry, but the employment and profits produced in supplying the export trade are not to be ignored. The conception that trade is a two-way undertaking is too often overlooked.

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From the Louisville Courier-Journal, Nov. 26 -

FOR BETTER LIVES THROUGH BETTER FOOD, Editorial - Since the beginning of the New Deal, a search has gone on to find a workable program of improving the health of the American people through better diets. Recently, the pressing business of the war out of the way, it has been spurred to a swifter pace by revelations which came out of the war--the knowledge that millions of young men were found unfit for military service, a fact marking actually an impairment of the nation's stamina and therefore of its chance of survival, because of physical defects of which a large proportion plainly were traceable to poor diets. It is interesting news therefore, that the Truman Administration is making a major project out of finding a remedy; in short, out of seeing that everybody eats well.

Some amazing facts are coming to light, relating physical well-being to other kinds of well-being. For example, if all the families in the United States had an adequate diet, food consumption would be 35 to 40 per cent above the highest level before the war, and the fear of farm and food surpluses would be wiped out for good.....

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From the Indiana Farmers Guide, Dec. 1 -

GOSS' FARM PARITY FORMULA FINDING FAVOR, By Fred Bailey - A plan for a "modernized" farm parity formula, presented by Albert S. Goss, Master of The National Grange, is finding favorable reception among a number of Congressmen, farm commodity leaders and USDA agricultural economists.

His plan, calling for the inclusion of the farmers' farm labor costs in computing parity and taking into consideration changes in price relationships between commodities, was presented at a Senate Agriculture Committee hearing this month on the parity bill of Senator Thomas, (D-Okla.).

Neither the Thomas (Senate) nor the Pace (House) parity measures is acceptable to the major farm organizations. Both include farm labor costs, but the Senate bill goes further to shift the "base period" date from 1909-14 to 1919-29. Goss' plan has been termed "a happy medium." Under the Grange proposal, Goss would use prices in a current five-year period in determining the relative value of crops and would bring the whole combined modern price level into adjustment with changing costs, thus having the effect of keeping the parity formula constantly current. Washington observers believe Secretary of Agriculture Anderson favors a "modern" farm parity price formula. - - -

Farm Digest 2235-45-3

From the Indiana Farmers Guide, Dec. 1 (Cont) -

WHAT'S THE ANSWER?, Editorial - This does not make sense! Practically every bureaucratic division in Washington is urging the holding down of farm prices and advising folks not to buy if there is any indication of inflation in the selling of farmland, but the United States government is selling its Indiana farmland at a twenty-five percent profit over what it paid for it in 1941, and at the same time is retaining the mineral rights under that land.....

Surely such a situation as one finds in the government selling farm lands at a profit which it came in and forcibly took away from folks who did not want to sell and then to turn around and sell it at a profit and hold its mineral rights, does not sound like a fair deal.

But—who said it was a fair deal? It is the New Deal way still at work....

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From the Salt Lake Tribune, Dec. 1 -

FARMERS TOLD TO DELAY CONSTRUCTION, Logan - Utah farmers were advised Friday to be extremely cautious in considering construction of new homes or any other major buildings at the present time.

Speaking at Friday morning meeting of the annual adult extension leadership training school being conducted on the campus of Utah State Agriculture college, Russell S. Hanson, Logan banker, said that money is valuable in proportion to the way it is used. Because of greatly inflated costs of labor and material, any major program of building on the farm or elsewhere is not good business now,.....

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INROADS TO INFLATION BY PRESSURE GROUPS, Editorial - Most people are convinced that inflation is ruinous.....A case in point is related by a representative in touch with a modest manufacturing establishment....

Coconuts, being "an inconsequential item," were relieved of the ceiling price control. A candy manufacturer using these nuts testified before the house committee for "small business" protection.

In 1942 coconuts cost him \$15 per thousand. This price increased until a ceiling checked the price at \$61.50 per thousand. Pressure groups succeeded in having the ceiling removed on the 26th of last October. Two days later he was offered \$140 per thousand for all on hand. Next day the price jumped to \$175 and the following day to \$250 per thousand. He had to quit making coco-candy when his \$15 purchases of 1942 rose to \$250 immediately after the ceiling was lifted.

That is what small business and average consumers will encounter all along the line, if pressure groups can induce congress to deprive Chester Bowles of the power to "hold the line against inflation."

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RANCHERS START FEEDING STOCK, Rock Springs, Wyo - Sweetwater county's ranchers, once raisers of range livestock only, are turning more towards the practices of ranch feeding and finishing of cattle and sheep, reports Harley W. Roath, county agent.

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From the New York Times, Dec. 5 (Cont.) -

**COTTON PRICES OFF AFTER EARLY RISE**--After holding steady early in the session, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange eased slightly yesterday on hedge selling on diminishing trade support. Final prices were unchanged to 8 points lower on the day.

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**ATTENTION**--The New York Times of Dec. 5 reported that Lieut. Gen. Lucius C. Clay, American Military Governor (in Germany) said that food would be sent from the United States to support the diet of 15,050 calories a day as of Jan. 1. The figure usually quoted is 1400 calories a day.

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From the Wall Street Journal, New York, Dec. 6 -

**WAGE RISES UP TO 33% ABOVE JANUARY 1941 ARE BASIS FOR HIGHER PRICES, U. S. RULES**--Stabilization Administrator John C. Collet announced that any pay increase raising wages up to 33% above January, 1941, levels may be used as a basis for seeking higher prices.

His order contained no requirement that the Office of Price Administration grant requests for higher price ceilings on such a basis.

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**CED FINDS SURPLUS OF LABOR ON FARMS**--The Committee for Economic Development declared that American agriculture is now characterized by "an excessively large labor supply, an increasing rate of output per worker and a slackening in the rate of increase of demand."

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 6 -

**EXTENT OF BLACK MARKET IN TEXTILES IS MINIMIZED**--Extent of black market operations here in the textile and apparel industries was minimized yesterday by trade leaders following the report that the Justice and Treasury Departments were joining with the Office of Price Administration in a drive to stamp out such activities in New York.

A reported estimate of one government official that 65 per cent of all textile sales were in the black-market category drew particular fire.

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**FOREIGN TRADE MONOPOLY SEEN BACKED BY U.S.**--Government agencies such as the International Trade Organization of the Department of Commerce and the Civilian Production Administration are fostering monopoly control by certain large manufacturers in export trade, it was charged yesterday by two export merchants at a meeting of the Foreign Credit Interchange Bureau.

The policies of these agencies favor monopoly control, one trader said, citing a commodity that had only three producers here. The War Production Board, he said, had decreed that a certain amount of this item should be allocated for export, but the three producers had refused licenses to independent exporters. They were not able to export all their export allocation themselves and now have recalled their foreign agents and will not export at all.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 6 (Cont) -

OTHER MARKETS - Flour prices firm with more mills reported withdrawn due to heavy backlogs, subsidy uncertainty .... Hog prices stage further recovery as receipts again show a drop, with ceilings quoted on some .... Frozen specialty poultry up on ceiling increase ..... Demand for vegetables limited .... Acute butter tightness continues in face of heavier demand ... Eggs continue to ease ... Cheese supply tightest in years.

- - -

PARITY CONCEPT HELD OUTMODED, UNWORKABLE BY ESSAYISTS - Interesting views on postwar pricing policy for agriculture products are given in the November issue of the Journal of Farm Economics issued by the American Farm Economic Association which reprints the winning papers in its recent \$12,500 prize contest which has as a theme—"A Price Policy for Agriculture, Consistent With Economic Progress, That Will Promote Adequate and More Stable Income From Farming."

In general, the present parity formula was considered to be outmoded and the entire concept of parity was held to be unworkable by a surprising number of contributors.

Various suggestions were made for revising the parity formula. In general, these provided for some more recent base so that individual price parities would more nearly reflect basic changes which have taken place in the prices of individual commodities since 1910-14. Little emphasis was placed on production control.

A strong accent was placed on greater freedom in prices than is possible under existing price support legislation.....

\* \* \*

From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 6 —

UP-TO-DATE PARITY IS AIM; Agriculture Secretary Finds Present Formula Faulty, Washington (AP) - Clinton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, called tonight for an "up-to-date" Government parity formula for determining fairness of prices farmers receive.

He said the present formula, which is based upon farm legislation enacted in the early days of the Roosevelt Administration, provides too high a price yardstick for some commodities and too low for others.

As a consequence, he said, it stands in the way of sound agricultural planning.....

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NEW CHIEF OF FOOD RATIONING TAKES OVER, Washington - A new chief of food rationing took over today, with only one commodity to ration—sugar.

OPA announced that George A. Dice, formerly of Pittsburgh, was succeeding James E. Kelly, of West Hartford, Conn.....

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GRANGE AIMS ARE EXPLAINED, Annapolis (AP) - Dr. E. W. Sheets, a representative of the National Grange, told Maryland Grangers today that the main point on the farm organization's program next year would be a campaign for "equity" between farm and labor income.....

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Farm Digest 2235-45-6



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D14 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 411-4. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the Journal of Commerce, New York, Dec. 7 -

PREAMBLE TO TRADE PROPOSAL SHOWS SCOPE OF AGREEMENTS--"The Secretary of State of the United States has made public today a document setting forth certain 'Proposals for Consideration by an International Conference on Trade and Employment.' These proposals have the indorsement of the Executive branch of the Government of the United States and have been submitted to other governments as a basis for discussion preliminary to the holding of such a conference.

"Equally, the Government of the United Kingdom is in full agreement on all important points in these proposals and accepts them as a basis for international discussion.

"These negotiations will relate to tariffs and preferences, quantitative restrictions, subsidies, State trading, cartels, and other types of trade barriers treated in the document published by the United States and referred to above. The negotiations will proceed in accordance with the principles laid down in that document."

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COTTON LIST MIXED IN LIGHT TRADING; ANDERSON'S VIEWS--Cotton developed an irregular trend yesterday on the New York Cotton Exchange with closing quotations unchanged to 2 points up and 3 off. Price fixing in the near months after the market opened 4 to 6 points higher met increased hedge selling and some liquidation. Profit taking also pared the gains at the peaks. There were no notices issued in December. The open interest decreased to 25,800 bales.

News from Washington disclosed that the Secretary of Agriculture is opposed to any further advance in the parity price that might hold United States cotton above the world market and encourage further competition from foreign growers. There was no indication as what the Secretary considered an up-to-date formula which would give farmers a fair share of the national income and at the same time hold cotton within a competitive margin.

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BOWLES, TAFT CLASH ON EARLY REMOVAL OF PRICE CONTROLS--A sharp clash on the tempo of price decontrol featured the second session of NAM's fiftieth anniversary Congress of American Industry yesterday.

Speaking out "bluntly," Price Administrator Chester Bowles termed NAM's proposal to lift all price controls by Feb. 15 next "reckless in the extreme" and pleaded with the association to reexamine its position.

NAM Director Arthur Walsh, who presided at the meeting, saw little chance for such a move on the part of NAM, however. He was strongly seconded by Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, who sharply attacked the price agency and said that, in his opinion, OPA could "not be trusted with the decision as to what articles must still be controlled after July 1, 1946."

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CANNERS SEE GAIN IN CONSUMER CALL AIDING EXPANSION--A greater consumption of canned foods was forecast in postwar years here today by Fred A. Stare, Columbus Wis., president of the National Canners Association.

(Turn to page 5)

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From the New York Times, Dec. 7 -

FOOD APLENTY IN '46 SEEN BY ANDERSON - Current inventories of the Department of Agriculture, which include items of food and clothing of international concern, indicate that this nation will have a prosperous year in 1946, Secretary Clinton P. Anderson declared yesterday.

Giving an accounting as a business executive at a Rotary Club luncheon Mr. Anderson reminded his fellow Rotarians of accrued profits under the department's "price-support program" and his responsibilities to "140,000,000 stockholders" and a board of directors consisting of the members of Congress.

Pointing out that there were profits on tobacco and cotton, "without trying," the Secretary added: "Business men say 'I'm not in business for my health'; but we in the Department of Agriculture are in business for the economic health of our nation.".....

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FOOD PRICES SHOW DECLINE - Marking the first decline in the past eight weeks, the Wholesale Food Price Index for the week ended Dec. 4 dropped 1 cent to \$4.15, from the twenty-five year peak reached in the previous week, Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., reported yesterday. The latest week's figure reflected a gain of 2 per cent over the comparative 1944 level of \$4.07. Only barley advanced during the week. Declines were shown for rye, oats, potatoes, hogs and lambs.

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CARLOADINGS ROSE 12.2% A WEEK AGO, Washington - Loadings of revenue freight for the week ended Dec. 1, totaled 803,770 cars, the Association of American Railroads announced today. This was 87,276 cars, or 12.2 per cent more than the preceding week; 4,066 cars, or 0.5 percent, fewer than for the corresponding week last year, and 58,963 cars, or 6.8 per cent, fewer than in the corresponding week two years ago.....

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 7 -

WHERE THE MONEY GOES, Editorial - The Senate has passed an appropriation of \$550,000,000 to pay what the United States owes on a first contribution to United Nations relief in Europe, and the House is considering the second outlay of \$1,350,000,000 to which we stand committed. The money should be forthcoming without any strings attached and without further unseemly bluffing about it.

Reasonable questions about how the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration might spend its funds were disposed of by General Eisenhower recently. He tacitly recognized ground for doubt as to the past by giving assurance to Congress that better administration can now be expected....

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FEW WAR PLANTS CALLED USABLE IN PEACE DAYS, Washington - Less than one-third of the \$14,000,000,000 worth of war-built manufacturing plants, which the Federal government constructed to meet war demands, will be usable in the post-war period, the Civilian Production Administration disclosed today.....

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 4 -

WORLD PEACE UP TO YOUTH, 4-H MEET TOLD, Chicago - One of the dark mysteries left by World War II was illuminated Monday night at the 24th National 4-H Club congress here.

That is the mystery of where and how this nation is going to get a citizenship in the future that will be trained in the human cooperation needed to make it possible for nations to work together in a unified world.....

Those 800 4-H winners, grouped at round tables with as many club leaders, all facing toward the speakers' table and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson, heard the answer put into words by him.

They themselves, it turned out, are the answer. The job of world cooperation is being checked to youth by older people, who have been too illy trained and too poorly grounded in cooperation to keep the world from dividing disastrously against itself.....

- - -

GI FARM PLANS MEET SETBACK, Washington - (UP) - A large number of the million or more veterans who want to be farmers may be in for a disappointment.

These were the straws in the wind:

(1) With close to five million men already out of service, only 700 veterans have gotten farm loans through the Veterans administration under the GI Bill of Rights.

(2) The Farm Security administration, a better bet for the farm-minded veteran but strictly limited on funds, has helped 3,500 veterans with all types of loans, hopes to set up 4,000 as farmers this fiscal year.

(3) The National Planning association estimated only 650,000 farms will become available to buyers in the next five years, against a demand for 1,100,000. It indicated many will be over-priced.....

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From the Milwaukee Journal, Dec. 3 -

WARNS BAKERS OF SUGAR DEALS - Bakers caught in black market sugar operations to escape the existing sugar shortage will be treated as any other black market customers, Herbert L. Ebling, assistant OPA director here, said Monday.

Ebling's statement was in answer to a report Saturday by Fred H. Laufenberg, executive secretary of the Wisconsin Bakers' association, that the sugar shortage may force a number of bakers into the black market to obtain supplies.....

Laufenberg said Monday that he had received a call from a large Milwaukee baker that he could not operate through the week without more sugar. He said he had received similar calls Monday from bakers in Fond du Lac and Janesville....

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From the Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 4 -

..... FARM COMMITTEE IN COUNTY NAMES, Canton - A county committee of five members has been named by the St. Lawrence county agricultural conservation association to serve during 1946 as a means of contact between government conservation agencies and community committees in arranging for the distribution of lime and superphosphate, subsidy payments, and other aspects of the government's agricultural conservation program.....

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From the Cotton and Cotton Oil Press, Dec. 1 -

**SURPLUS COTTON BOARD** - Secretary Anderson is following up the surplus cotton problem.

More than a month ago he declared in an Arkansas address that "one of the first things we must do is to clear the deck of this great (cotton) surplus."

He gave his listeners more than just plain conversation. Translating his views into action, his latest move calls for a cotton export advisory board of seven representatives from the American cotton industry to help work out a program for the disposal of surplus U. S. cotton.

The board will work in collaboration with the USDA in seeking to develop a program looking toward the disposition of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million bales of Government-owned cotton. The cotton is principally of short staple and officials express the belief that "outlets for this fiber and other stocks may be found in some of the European and Far Eastern countries.".....

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From the San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 30 -

**SCARCE BUTTER SUPPLY UNDER OPA INQUIRY** - The mystery of why butter is still scarce and whether people are just going to have to do with less is to be the subject of an OPA inquiry.

F. H. St. Goar, OPA butter expert here, is en route to Washington. Among other things, he will seek to find the answer to why butter manufacturing is going down, and if a change in OPA ceilings on butter ingredients would alter the situation.

California Creamery Operators' Association and agricultural leaders have asked an adjustment of price policies in the belief it would increase butter supplies for consumers.

Creamery operators cite that butterfat producers get more money for their product than they do if it is sold for making butter. Plastic cream is not under OPA ceilings. Butter cream has a 48-cent ceiling per pound.....

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From the Memphis Commercial Appeal, Dec. 3 -

**MACHINE TRANSITION HAS COME TO COTTON** - Mechanization of this country's cotton crop is upon us, according to the National Cotton Council..... Dr. Frank J. Welch and Dr. D. Gray Miley, farm economists at Mississippi State College agricultural experiment station, after completing cotton mechanization cost studies, said in a recent joint report:

"American cotton production must be made more efficient if it is to compete successfully in the market place with foreign grown cotton and synthetic substitute products, and at the same time bring the producer anything like an adequate income. The economic and social dislocations and adjustments as well as the ultimate benefits that rather complete modernization of cotton production and harvesting will inevitably bring, must be shared by society as a whole.".....

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From the Journal of Commerce, New York, Dec. 7 (Cont.) -

**TAXES AND FOOD OFFERINGS**--With direct offerings of many seasonal processed foods at a minimum, in the face, of continued active demand from the distributing trades, the extent to which packers may be carrying over into 1946 goods packed during the current season, for tax purposes, remains a topic of absorbing interest in industry circles.

While such carryovers are an indisputable fact, there are growing indications that the quantities of merchandise withheld from the current market may not prove as large as many in the trade have believed. Too, the release of such goods will by no means meet the demands of all distributors.

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**SEVERAL EQUALIZING CHANGES AFFECTED IN WOOL MILL MAP**--Several liberalizing amendments to the wool MAP designed to equalize certain provisions of the order were announced today by the Office of Price Administration:

Asserting that a study of mill applications and reports has demonstrated the need for these changes, the OPA stated that they have been incorporated into amendment 11 to SO 113, retroactive to July 1, 1945.

In the first of these changes producers of low-cost woolen and worsted fabrics are given the same temporary relief in the third quarter of 1945 that is provided for higher priced producers--a 7 per cent increase over the maximum price. This map is the weighted average price for the 1944 base period reduced by 4 per cent.

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**HOSIERY MILLS AWAIT MAP MOVE**--Hosiery mills that can find some price relief under SO 139 and have figured their new prices accordingly are held up in their merchandising for next year, because OPA so far has not extended the quarterly operation of MAP even into the first quarter of 1946. There is considerable satisfaction being shown by some manufacturers over the relief that has been found in this new order, but this is nullified by the fact that they cannot be sure of delivering at the new prices until OPA acts to implement MAP in the customary way.

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**MAP HAVING ADVERSE AFFECT ON WOOLEN AND WORST SUPPLIES**--The evidence accumulates that continued enforcement of the Maximum Average Price regulation against woolen and worsted mills is not only unnecessary but is actually disrupting the normal flow of fabric.

MAP has resulted in (1) increase in the production of lighter weight fabric when the heavyweight goods were needed for the winter season, and (2) increased production of women's wear fabric when the great need was for men's wear yardage. This has been a necessary operational adjustment that MAP has forced mills to resort to in order to meet their old maximum average price. Wages and costs are higher, so that lighter weight, less expensive fabric was the only answer.

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**RYE CLOSES LOWER**--Rye futures fail to hold early advances with old crop deliveries dropping 6c to 7c from the day's highs to finish with losses of as much as 4c, while distant positions retain part of their advance. Oats also close lower after early gains, but wheat changes are negligible and corn holds at the ceiling. Weakness in Winnipeg rye despite reduction in margins there stimulates selling at Chicago.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 7 -

FCC POLLS FARM, TOWN LISTENERS; PLANS MORE PROGRAMS, LESS STATIC, Washington- The Federal Communications Commission has had poll takers ringing doorbells of 2,500 rural homes, and now knows for a certainty that "most rural people value radio highly."

If its poll of rural listeners hasn't uncovered a sensational set of listening habits in the hinterlands, the F.C.C. thinks it has turned up information that will help it get more programs with less static to more farm and country families.....

- - -

From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 7 -

U. S. AND ITALY SIGN NEW TRADE AGREEMENT, Washington - The United States and Italy have reached an agreement designed to promote expanded postwar trade between the two countries. The State Department made the announcement today.....

- - -

INDIVIDUAL SUGAR RATION UNCHANGED, Washington - Individual sugar rations will continue to be five pounds in the four months from January through April but housewives may find it harder to get sugar in January and February, the OPA announced today.

With validation of a new sugar stamp, Number 39, on January 1, the OPA expects a shortage which will be most noticeable on the East Coast.....

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From the Chicago Tribune, Dec. 4 -

U.S. WILL IMPORT FOREIGN LABOR TO WORK FARMS - Shortage of farm labor will continue critical next year, but there will be no shortage of food, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said at a press conference yesterday.

Surveys at separation centers indicate that many farm youths leaving the army are not going to return to agricultural work, the secretary said. This means much of the burden of farming will continue to rest on the shoulders of the older farmers and women, as it did during the war.

"We have asked for an appropriation of 14 million dollars to continue bringing foreign labor groups to this country to help with the harvest in areas where the labor shortage is critical," the secretary explained....

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From the Salt Lake Tribune, Dec. 2 -

IDAHO EXPERT APPROVES HOG PRICES, Pocatello, Ida - Bannock Extension Agent Boyd Baxter Saturday said the new support price on good and choice butcher hogs has the approval of Wade Wells Moscow, University of Idaho extension swine specialist.

He said Mr. Wells wrote to him that "it will permit Idaho swine growers to plan production over the two-year period and eliminate one of the unknowns of pork production.".....

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST  
(For December 10, 1945)

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(The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 10 -

**COSTS OF CLOTHING HIT POOR FAMILIES**--Absence of low-cost merchandise and the up-grading of garments now on the market have caused low-income families to pay two and three times as much for certain clothing items as they did in 1937, home economics consultants of the Community Service Society, have found in a survey, according to a report for publication today.

The study, carried out by a committee of home economists showed a rise of 12 per cent in clothing prices during the last year alone. In line with this it was announced, the Community Service Society has had to increase its monthly clothing allowances for families under its care.

- - - -

**TAX ADVANTAGES DELAY DELIVERIES**--The Illinois Federation of Retail Associations today charged "a comparative handful of manufacturers" with harming the manufacturing industry and doing irreparable damage to the retail stores of America and to their customers by refusing to ship badly need merchandise until after Jan. 1, when a more favorable tax situation will exist.

J. T. Meek, executive secretary of the federation, said "reputable retail stores turned in the names."

Such action has given the Office of Price Administration an opportunity to shift the blame for goods shortages from themselves, Mr. Meek asserted.

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**CANADA'S FOOD SUPPLY SAFE BEHIND BORDER**--An unusual picture of the Canadian food situation with respect to the United States was given last evening in the House of Commons by Minister of Agriculture James Gardiner.

Speaking of restrictions, tariffs and price ceilings, the Minister said, "I may be wrong, but I do not know of any line anywhere in the world more completely closed against the international marketing of products than is the Canadian-American line against the marketing of farm products."

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**LARD INCREASES WITH HOG SUPPLY**--Increased receipts of hogs at Western packing centers has resulted in considerable improvement in the make of lard in the last two weeks, and this is reflected in an accumulation of stocks during the last two weeks of last month. Packers and brokers warn, however, that it will be some time before supplies are adequate to take care of the demand, and they are not confident in estimates by Government officials as to a substantial increase in the amount available for the civilian trade.

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**PHOSPHATE MINE PLANNED**--The International Minerals and Chemical Corporation announced yesterday that it had completed negotiations to purchase 2,000 acres of phosphate rock-bearing land near Bartow, Fla., and plans to develop it into the largest phosphate mining operation in the United States.

(Turn to page 5)

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From the Herald Tribune, Dec. 10 -

HARVESTER FIRM REPORTS INCREASE IN CIVILIAN PRODUCTS SALES, Chicago - (AP) - Total sales of International Harvester Co. in the last quarter of the fiscal year ended Oct. 31, were 33 per cent under last year's sales according to Fowler McCormick, president.

He said sales to the military dropped 70 per cent in the period. Sales of civilian products, however, increased 44 per cent over the previous year. Mr. McCormick estimated that total sales for the 1945 fiscal year would be below the total of \$640,000,000 of the preceding fiscal year.....

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INDIA REPORTS SURPLUS OF COTTON FOR EXPORT, Bombay, India - (AP) - A large and growing surplus of Indian short staple cotton is available for export, it is reported here, despite the restricted acreage of cotton under cultivation and increased consumption by Indian mills....

- - -

TUNA AND SALMON STOCKS ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE - Increased supplies of tuna and salmon will be available for civilians following the return to the commercial fishing fleet of many tuna boats used by the armed forces during the war and reduced government requirements, it was predicted yesterday by E. H. Bell, vice-president of the American Can Co. More canned tuna is expected within the next few months, he said.....

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From the Wall Street Journal, Dec. 10 -

FARMERS' WIVES WANT ELECTRICITY; FRESH PAINT, Wichita, Kan. - Life will be a lot pleasanter soon for the wife down on the farm. She will have electrical equipment in the kitchen, running water in the bathroom, linoleum on the floor and fresh paint on the house. This is revealed through a study by the extension service of Kansas State College at Manhattan.....

Of 156,327 farmers in the state, 8,984 responded to inquiries propounded through neighborhood leaders.....

Of those planning purchases, two-thirds said they would pay cash from current earnings or bank savings. Only 8% expect to make instalment purchases. Of the remainder, 23% of those buying things for the home plan to cash war-savings bonds. Seventeen percent of the farm-equipment buyers will finance their purchases by such bonds. Sale of other assets and securities will complete the financing. The average farmer expects to spend almost \$1,000 in the next two years for household and farm equipment.

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INTERNATIONAL MINERALS BUYS PHOSPHATE PROPERTY IN FLORIDA, Chicago - Negotiations were completed today for the purchase by International Minerals & Chemical Corp., of a phosphate rock deposit near Bartow, Fla., which will be developed into the largest and most modern phosphate mining operation in the United States, according to Louis Ware, company president. Approximately 2,000 acres of land are involved.....



From the Des Moines Register, Dec. 5 -

PARITY CHANGES ARE DEMANDED, Chicago, (AP) - A senator, a dairyman and two farm leaders Tuesday criticized America's farm parity program.

Senator Elmer Thomas (Dem., Okla.) told the National Co-operative Milk Producers federation that:

"Until the parity law is amended to include all farm labor costs the nation's farmers will remain in a sub-strata section of our economic life and agriculture will continue to lag behind labor and industry."

Herschel D. Newsom, master of the Indiana state grange, told the group the present parity formula "is so obsolete and yields such ridiculous figures in some cases that under ceiling and support prices congress has had to make many exceptions and even authorize 'comparable prices.' "

A "two-price system that will maintain a real parity return to farmers" on domestically consumed products was urged by John Brandt, Minneapolis, Minn., president of the federation.....

Homer L. Brinkley, Lake Charles, La., president of the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives, predicted that if farm product prices were "kept out of proportion to the new and higher basis of other goods and services," a depression could be expected—"more destructive than any yet seen."

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The Milwaukee Journal, Dec. 4 -

BUTTER OR OLEO, WOMEN'S PLEA - Irked by the butter shortage, directors of the Milwaukee Woman's club Monday voted to ask Gov. Goodland to investigate, and if a solution is not found, to call a special session of the legislature "to remove the oleo tax so that people may purchase a substitute for butter at a reasonable price.".....

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From the Northwestern Miller, Dec. 4 -

HEDGING ON PRINCIPLES, Editorial - Friend of ours who has the ear of Washington and whispers into it very frequently concerning the needs and desires and dislikes of the industry he represents, and whose whisper customarily has been amplified to a loud "No!" for most manifestations and extensions of the bureaucratic idea, finds himself on such a hot spot as was inevitable to a high-principled man of his ilk and calling. He is now required by those for whom he speaks to ask for a government subsidy of precisely the kind and amount he has hitherto habitually damned and denounced.

"Funny thing," he grieves, "how businessmen holler when government puts 'em in chains and tries to lead 'em around by the nose, then change their tune to gimme-a-cup-o-cawfee when their chance comes to dip into the public treasury.

Our friend is old in philosophy but will be a saddened man for this experience. He will be oppressed with the same sense of having hedged on his principles that undoubtedly, in conscientious moments, assails most of the economic world which has had to conform in recent years to the New Ideal of Prosperity by Dole. Subsidy, necessitated by government interference with primary laws of the market place, has been made into a rule of survival. It is but one form of the government largesse that enslaves even as it assists. Sometime, somewhere, a beginning will have to be made by all of us, even at cost of individual pains and deprivations, toward breaking down these destructive benevolences of government instead of continuously building them up into stronger chains and welding them to our own necks through selfishly eager acquiescence.

Farm Digest 2255-45-3

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From the Northwestern Miller, Dec. 4 -

WASHINGTON CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE FLOUR EXPORTS NOW GETTING RESULTS, Washington - Concrete evidence of progress in promoting exports of flour as well as wheat is reported by Herman Fakler, vice president of the Millers National Federation in the organization's publication, "Milling Around in Washington," issued this week.

As a result of general conditions and accumulated pressure by trade representatives, members of the Congress and sympathetic interest on the part of officials in the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Combined Food Board, USDA officials are now telling foreign procurement missions that they must take flour in addition to wheat.....

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From the New Orleans Times-Picayune, Dec. 2 -

TUNG OIL OFFERS DIXIE NEW CROP, Atlanta - Tung orchards offer a new crop to the South and in time tung oil mills may come to dot the tung belt as gins now dot the cotton belt.

In time, too, if the output of American tung oil increases, the varnish industry that finds in the South a major source of its supply of resin, may seek the South as its natural home.

These forecasts are made in the monthly review of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta in an article on the tung industry by Earle L. Rauber....

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From the Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 5 -

BANKS STUDY FINANCING OF NEW FARM MACHINERY, New York (UP) - Financing of farm machinery promises to be a potential outlet for many deposited dollars held in commercial banks, The New York State Banker, published by the New York State Bankers association, indicated today.

The American Bankers association now has a manual on farm implement financing almost ready for the press, and the New York State Association is studying the matter with a view to bring the work down to a New York state level, the publication stated....

- - -

INQUIRY IN MILK PRICE SCHEDULED, Albany, (INS) - The state commission on agriculture, headed by Assembly Majority Leader Irving M. Ives, will make a study next year of the milk price spread, with public hearings probable.

This was revealed today by Chairman Ives, who emphasized, however, that this study is only a part of the over-all to improve the conditions of agriculture in the state by increasing consumption of farm produce.....

- - -

FARM PRICE GUARANTEES WILL BE AT LOW LEVELS, Washington, (UP) - The government in 1946 will reduce virtually all farm price guarantees to the lowest level allowed by law, it was disclosed today. A policy of lowered farm support prices in the first postwar farming year was stated by H. B. Boyd, the agriculture departments director of price, at a 1946 farm outlook conference.

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From the New York Times, Dec. 10 - (Cont.)

**COTTON CONTINUES ITS UPWARD TREND**--Prices of cotton for future delivery continued last week to move higher. At the close on Saturday active contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange, except the January delivery, showed net gains of 17 to 30 points. The January contract rose only 1 point. During the week most of the contracts established new seasonal highs.

Among the factors tending to stimulate buying were the expectation that the Government's Dec. 2 crop estimate would show a further reduction in the crop prospect, the growing scarcity of better qualities of cotton, prospects of an expanding export trade in the staple in coming months and the belief held in numerous quarters that domestic textile production will register an increase after the turn of the year.

Attention was being drawn to Washington reports that Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson is strongly opposed to advances in the parity price that might raise American cotton still farther above the world market and encourage further competition from foreign growths and synthetics.

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**SPECULATION OUT IN WHEAT AND CORN**--Speculative interest in the wheat and corn markets is virtually nil, and the same applies to barley as the cash grain in each instance is selling at its ceiling price, leaving only oats and rye as grains in which there is any outside interest of consequence. Of the two grains oats is the only one that is free to reflect conditions fully, as trading in rye is restricted by extremely high margin requirements and a ceiling price which was placed recently on the 1946 crop deliveries.

Trading in oats constitutes over 50 per cent of the volume of business in the Board of Trade and prices were on the upgrade late last week following a rapid slump early in sympathy with rye, which broke 15 cents in three days, the limit for that period, as the result of liquidation induced by announcement of the new ceiling on the oncoming crop.

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**WOOL-BUYING PLAN LIKED**--Stockholders of the National Wool Marketing Corp., have endorsed and recommended continuation of the Commodity Credit Corp., wool purchase program with present values being held throughout the readjustment period D. E. Judd, secretary and treasurer of the organization said yesterday.

From Baltimore Sun, Dec. 10 -

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**MACARTHUR TO FREE JAP FARM SERFS**--General MacArthur today laid down a sweeping program of agrarian reform for Japan to "destroy the economic bondage which has enslaved the Japanese farmer for centuries of feudal oppression."

In a tremendous move calling for abolition of absentee land ownership and making provision for Japan's vast millions of small tenant farmers to buy their own farms on long terms at low rates, the supreme Allied commander ordered the Japanese Government to carry out the order by March 15.

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**SUGAR PRESENTED UNRRA BY CZECHS**--Director General Herbert H. Lehman today announced a "most welcome" contribution to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration of 2,000 tons of Czechoslovak sugar.

"In spite of her own hardships," Lehman said, "she (Czechoslovakia) can still think of her unfortunate neighbors and make sacrifices to help them out."

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 10 (Cont.)-

BOARD OF TRADE ADOPTS EMERGENCY RULE IN DECEMBER WHEAT, CORN, BARLEY FUTURES - Chicago, Ill. - Directors of the Chicago Board of Trade adopted an emergency regulation affecting the trading in the December, 1945, wheat, corn and barley futures. Under its terms, effective today, no new commitments in these three futures can be made except by those who have contract grades of wheat, corn or barley in a position to deliver and for the purpose of making delivery. Any other trading in December 1945 futures contracts in wheat, corn and barley must be for the purpose of liquidation only.....

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 10 -

EARLY REVOCATION OF ALLOCATION CONTROLS OVER FATS AND OILS IS UNLIKELY, Washington - Although allocation controls on oils may be revoked sometime next year, the crop outlook which will determine the possibility of releasing controls, is less favorable than earlier in the season. With the level of 1946 exports still uncertain, it appears that allocation controls will be retained until a more definite picture of supplies during the next 12 months is obtained, the industry report released yesterday by the Department of Commerce warned...

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CUBAN SUGAR CROP SALE TO TAKE TIME - Current negotiations for purchase of the 1946 Cuban sugar crop in progress in Washington are expected to consume considerable time, according to trade sources. Neither the Cubans nor officials of CCC are in the mood to make concessions, it is reported.

The price for the crop has been settled on at 3.67½c, but the two groups are far apart on other details.....

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ESTIMATE '46 LUMBER OUTPUT AT 30 BILLION FEET - Lumber production in 1946 should total between 28,000,000,000 and 30,000,000,000 feet if the industry is freed from labor disturbances and granted a favorable price structure, according to Richard A. Colgan, Jr., executive vice president of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association. Consumption this year is estimated at 32,000,000,000 feet, as against 33,000,000,000 feet in 1944 and nearly 36,000,000,000 feet in 1929.....

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GOVERNMENT AGENCY ACTIONS SEEN DISTURBING WOOL TRADE - Into a wool textile market already disrupted from normal practices by the provisions of MAP and M-328B, both responsible Government agencies added further confusion at the week-end, millmen asserted. The Civilian Production Administration did its share through the sending of telegrams to most major units in the industry requesting certain information on CC rated orders, which, it was learned at the week-end, had been erroneously sent to woolen and worsted manufacturers, since they were supposed to go only to rayon converters.

The office of Price Administration action on MAP was not regarded as injurious....but by further complicating an already complicated order was said to be imposing additional burdens of interpretation and legal comprehension upon each mill representative....

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14 (The newspapers and magazines, from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 11 -

TRADE CURBS ENDED BY TRUMAN, ATTLEE--President Truman with Prime Minister Attlee and King today ordered dissolution of the Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Raw Materials Board as unnecessary controls over international trade but decided on continued operation of the Combined Food Board into 1946.

In a joint statement, the three leaders paid tribute to the achievements of the boards in economic collaboration which they said "unquestionably hastened the moment of victory."

Termination of the two boards was set for Dec. 31 and that of the Combined Food Board at the earliest possible date during the first six months of 1946, but not later than June 30.

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BUTTER SHORTAGE DUE TO GET WORSE--A survey showed yesterday that most retail grocery stores were butterless, that black marketing again was rampant and that butter production throughout the nation has reached a twenty-three-year low.

The butter shortage, which has been growing steadily worse in the seventeen days since butter was made ration free, has become a subject of controversy between the Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture.

National Price Administrator Chester A. Bowles wants to impose price ceilings on butterfat, trade reports say, while Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson opposes such price ceilings. Butterfat, a milk product, was bringing 75 cents a pound two weeks ago, but not creameries must pay 95 cents to \$1 a pound.

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OAT FUTURES SHOW MODERATE GAINS--Oats futures gained moderately in the early trading today on the Board of Trade, with December leading. The latter equaled the seasonal high and sold within  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents of the ceiling price, while all transactions in cash oats were at the ceiling price plus one mark-up. This was the first time this season the maximum level had been paid generally for cash oats.

There was a fair trade on in December wheat, largely in the way of evening-up operations, as no new trading is permitted. Futures closed unchanged to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent higher, with December and May at the ceiling. Rye was dull and  $1\frac{1}{8}$  cents higher to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent lower, the latter on September. Corn held unchanged at ceiling prices, and barley was unchanged to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent lower.

A shortage of box cars to move cash oats from the Northwest for delivery purposes was reflected in a wider spread between December here and in Minneapolis.

Comments on the new winter wheat crop are becoming increasingly less favorable, as the result of continued dry weather in parts of the West and Southwest. Corn trading was nil, except for spreading between December and May, at ceiling prices. Cash corn was in somewhat larger supply, but carlots sold at ceiling prices, with a broad demand for the offerings.

Operations in rye were somewhat restricted, as traders awaited further developments in regard to the new ceiling on the 1946 crop, which will go into effect on June 1, but which might be changed as the result of hearings held last week at Washington.

(Turn to page 5)

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 11 -

BOWLES ASSERTS PRESSURE OF INFLATION IS DELAYING END OF PRICE CONTROLS, Washington - The Office of Price Administration is behind "by quite a margin" in its program for cutting down price controls, Administrator Chester Bowles said.

De-control will be slowed down as long as "economic pressures" continue, Mr. Bowles declared.

He said that his agency's de-control schedule has been based on estimates of large unemployment and falling retail sales, neither of which has materialized.....

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OLIVER DESIGNS PLOW WHICH REJUVENATES SOIL, ADDS TO CROPS, Chicago - A new plow that will increase farm production by rejuvenating the soil has been developed by the Oliver Corp.

R. J. Atgelt, chief engineer of the company's plow division, said that it had boosted potato yield on a farm in Pennsylvania by 76 bushels an acre. In another test near South Bend, Ind., land prepared with the new plow "grew more wheat than it had ever produced," Mr. Atgelt said.

The new plow has additional bases set a few inches below, behind and to one side of the upper bases which are adjusted for conventional plowing. The lower bases by widening and deepening the cut crumble the plowpan, or hard under-soil hitherto left untouched, mixing it slightly with the lower portion of the top soil.....

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EXHAUSTIVE TESTS SET PATTERN FOR SHIPPING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES BY AIR - San Francisco - A pattern for future airborne shipments of fruits and vegetables has been cut in the skies between the West Coast and major eastern cities.

For example, the test provides a practical answer to an all-important question: How much extra will consumers pay for food shipped by air?

Ralph E. Myers, a pioneer air-shipper of California's Salinas Valley, who sponsored the investigation, says "housewives gladly, and without show of sales resistance, consistently would pay an average of 10 cents a pound more than for produce marketed through other forms of transportation.".....

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COMMODITY DEALERS have invested in political know-how. They are said to be paying former Senator Sam Jackson, as governor of the Commodity Exchanges and Allied Trades, Inc., \$50,000 a year for the next three years. Brokers off the record say this:

Government thinking is trending away from elaborate controls, toward free markets with the Government paying farmers the difference between what they have been promised and what the free market yields. Senator Jackson is believed to be capable of helping push the Department of Agriculture toward this position.

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FLORIDA STRING BEANS were smacked down by frost, and canners are resigned to a severe shortage of canned beans between next spring and the time the big canning pack comes to the grocer's shelves for midsummer....

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From the New York Times, Dec. 9 -

POTATO GROWERS RESENT PRICE CUT - Threats that farmers would slash output of potatoes in 1946 were heard yesterday at a meeting of the Northeast Vegetable and Potato Growers Association here, after it was announced that the Department of Agriculture had decided to lower substantially its support prices for the commodity next year.

Farmer representatives said they could see no logic behind the reduction in view of their own expected higher labor costs. Some bitterly commented on "the Federal Government's concern in regard to labor's take-home pay" and disregard of farmers' income....

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SOVIET GRAIN TO BULGARIA, Sofia, Bulgaria - The Soviet Union has decided to lend Bulgaria 30,000,000 kilograms of corn and 20,000,000 kilograms of wheat to help replenish exhausted stores, as was recently done for Rumania, Trade Minister Dimitri Neikoff announced today. Bulgaria is not obliged to return the grain and fodder until April 1, 1947.....

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SENATOR CHARGES GRAIN DATA 'LEAKS', Washington, (AP) - Senator Elmer Thomas, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, said today there were information "leaks" in the Agriculture Department and Office of Price Administration that gave some grain-market dealers an unfair advantage....

J. B. Hutson, Under-Secretary of Agriculture, told the committee he did not believe any individual had "an inside track" on information in the Agriculture Department.....

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'MAP' PLAN SCORED BY WOOL GROWERS - Condemning the wool Maximum Average Price (MAP) regulation as operating to the disadvantage of the public, wool mills and wool growers, J. B. Wilson, chairman of the legislative committee of the National Wool Growers Association, yesterday urged an investigation of the measure by the Senate Small Business Committee.

The industry, according to Mr. Wilson, is in an upside down position because of the "impractical regulations" of the order, with the mills being forced to produce unwanted fabrics, and the public being forced to wear inferior apparel. The serious clothing shortage, he added, also is being broadened through continuance of the wool MAP.....

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SCARCITY TO CONTINUE WELL INTO NEXT YEAR - Buyers who have recently spent time in the markets agreed last week that merchandise shortages in the most important lines will continue well into 1946, according to a market report prepared especially for the New York Times by Kirby, Block & Co. Particularly affected are all lines dependent upon fabrics of any type, either cotton or rayon.....

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REPORT FROM THE NATION - The Upper South, Richmond - One of the most important pieces of legislation affecting the Upper South is the Bailey-Hays bill, which provides for Federal aid amounting to \$5,000,000 in the industrialization of the country's undeveloped areas, many of which are in this region. Senator Josiah W. Bailey of North Carolina and Representative Brooks Hays of Arkansas are the sponsors.....

A Richmond newspaper stressed the importance of achieving a better balance between agriculture and industry in regions now almost wholly agricultural, and mentioned the importance of getting such a program into operation before the mechanical cotton picker threw thousands out of work.

Conservatives and foes of Federal spending hereabout point to the Smallness of the appropriation as reassuring. They believe that much can be done, however, with this sum, which is to be spent through the Federal Departments of Commerce, Agriculture and Labor, and is to be utilized to provide technical assistance, vocational training, advice to new industries and similar services in expanding private employment and private enterprise....

The Deep South, New Orleans - Continental sugar cane growers are optimistic about prospects for increased ceiling prices and an improved parity formula.

The call of the Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson, for legislation to create a new parity formula met quick approval by cane growers. They agreed with his assertion that the present formula gives too high parity for some farm products and not enough for others. Sugar definitely is classed by its producers among these "others."

Washington representatives of cane interests have been informed that an increase of from 1 cent to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents a pound in the ceiling for refined sugar is likely.

Describing the Government as in the sugar business "hook, line and sinker," Earl B. Wilson, director of the sugar branch of the Department of Agriculture, informed the American Sugar Cane League that the Government wants to get out as soon as practicable.

Spokesmen for the league told Mr. Wilson that the basis of most of the ills of the continental sugar industry stemmed from the price structure. Clarence Bourg, in behalf of the league, reported that prices must be set "on a basis of parity, giving to producers, refiners and distributors a fair share in the market at a reasonable level in comparison to the marketing of other foods." .....

Midwest States, Omaha, Neb. - Midwest farmers and ranchers are sprouting wings. Many mean it literally when they promise to "drop in" on neighbors, for the number owning and flying planes is growing steadily.

If a fence breaks anywhere on his acres, the farmer hops into his small plane and lands alongside the break for a quick repair job. The planes come in handy for checking cattle and windmills.

The fifty-odd planes now in use among Nebraska farmers is smaller than the Flying Farmer Corps in Iowa and some other Midwest States. Oklahoma has a flying farmer's organization and more than 100 flew into Stillwater last summer for a combination farming-flying meet.

Phil Sheldon, of Scotts Bluff, Neb., editor and soil conservationist, recently had 260 acres of rye seeded in eight hours by plane.

Midwestern farmers are watching closely California plane-seeding experiments into which the Department of the Interior is sinking \$100,000.....

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From the Memphis Commercial Appeal, Dec. 7 -

FARM LABOR IS GONE, ARKANSAN CONCLUDES - The labor that left the farm during the war years is not coming back and mechanical farming is not a prospect for the immediate future; therefore the years of transition, when there is neither labor nor machinery will be the years which will test the ingenuity of the farmer, P. E. Simmons of Osceola, Ark., concludes..... Farm Digest 2265-45-4



From the New York Times, Dec. 11 (Cont.) -

**COTTON PRICE HELD IN NARROW RANGE**--Although cotton futures prices held within a narrow range yesterday, the market closed steady, 5 points higher to 1 point lower on the day.

The export business continued to expand. In the trade it was reported that Italy, France and China have taken in recent weeks a total of 200,000 bales, and their needs are placed for the coming year at over 2,000,000 bales. Great Britain is also expected to be in the market shortly for 100,000 bales.

The National Fertilizer Association placed the sales of fertilizer in the cotton States from January through November at 6,415,268 tons, or 8 per cent more than the 5,944,060 tons of last year.

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**WHOLESALE FOOD VOLUME RISES**--Wholesale food volume in the week ended Dec. 8 showed a gain of a little more than 8 per cent over the corresponding period of 1944, according to the American Institute of Food Distribution, Inc., yesterday.

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From the Herald Tribune, New York, Dec. 11 -

**2 $\frac{1}{2}$  MILLION PAIRS SURPLUS SHOES PLACED ON SALE**--Approximately 2,641,281 new pairs of shoes and boots, originally costing the Army and Navy \$13,000,000 were placed on sale yesterday in a nation-wide marketing of surplus footwear, according to Colonel Frank L. Seymour, regional director of the surplus property division-consumer goods, Reconstruction Finance Corp.

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**BIG NYLON SHIPMENT MADE BY HOLEPROOF HOSIERY CO.**--Gustave Frankel, president of Holeproof Hosiery Co., Milwaukee, announced that his firm had shipped today 250,000 pairs of all-nylon women's hose to 3,500 dealers in more than 1,000 cities throughout the country and planned to ship 7,000 dozen pairs of men's nylon hose to the same dealers next week.

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**CANADA AND U. S. MOVE TOWARD PACT ON CREDIT**--First steps toward conclusion of a long-term credit agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom were taken here during the week end.

The actual agreement probably will not be signed before next year.

A group of senior British finance and trade experts conferred with Canadian officials following their participation in the trotracted negotiation of a credit deal with the United States at Washington.

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From the Butchers' Advocate, Dec. 5-45 -

**SEES BIG DEMAND FOR BUTTER SOON**--E. E. Haskell, president of the American Butter Institute, recently predicted "within a few months" a demand for butter 50 per cent above war-time consumption levels.

"During the war consumption dropped to less than 100,000,000 pounds monthly, but I expect an increase demand that will reach 150,000,000 pounds within a few months," Mr. Haskell said.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 11 (Cont) -

FLOUR SUBSIDIES MAY BE ENDED - Dealers have sold all the mills can produce through next June; if they would take the orders, they could be booked until the end of 1946. In the face of this demand, especially from a ravenous Europe, they declare, the 80 cents a hundredweight subsidy on flour for domestic use and the 95-cent subsidy for flour for export are absurdities.

Flour men point to the ease with which a 5-cent-a-pound increase in the price of butter was absorbed. Ending the subsidy on flour would call for only a one-cent-a-loaf rise in the price of bread.

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COFFEE IMPORTS haven't responded heavily to the Government's 3-cents-a-pound subsidy. Between 1 million and 1,250,000 bags have come in under the subsidy, most of it from Brazil's National Coffee Department, which buys coffee to keep up the price. Private owners of higher grade coffee want another 2 cents a pound.

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CIGARETTE PRICES may fall after Christmas. Holiday buying is holding them steady now, except in rare, scattered instances, in the face of huge supplies. The wartime "famine" brands are disappearing....

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INEDIBLE CANTALOUPEs have solved the mildew problem for the Imperial Valley's growers of edible ones. Nearly all the California garden spot's 20,000 acres will be planted next year in two new varieties, off-spring of the inedible, mildew-resistant cantaloupe and toothsome domestic strains. Spoilage in cross-country shipment has caused serious losses in former years..

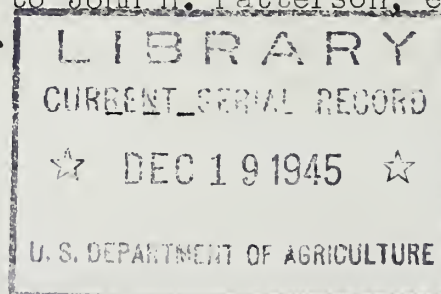
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GLOBAL BALANCE SHEET for food planned by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. This balance sheet is supposed to point out danger spots of overproduction and underconsumption. Estimates would be rough now, but F.A.O. experts believe they could be made accurate by the time food surpluses are a problem. They expect this to be in a very few years.

F.A.O. thinkers want their unit's charter amended to allow it to organize world commodity control cartels when surpluses come.

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SHORTAGE OF LEATHER WON'T LAST VERY LONG TRADE ECONOMIST SAYS - Increasing availability of cattlehides--23.5 million this year and an estimated production of 24 million for 1946--indicates that leather cannot continue critically scarce for any long period, according to John H. Patterson, economist of the National Shoe Manufacturers Association.



Farm Digest 2265-45-6



DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST  
(December 12, 1945)

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OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison on 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 12 -

ARMY WILL TAKE 30% OF TOP BEEF--The War Department will take 30 per cent of the production of the better grades of beef under a new Government "set-aside" order, effective Sunday.

The regulation, which resumes a practice used during the war to assure the armed forces adequate supplies of meat and other food items is necessary at this time, officials said today, to guarantee the Army sufficient high quality beef in the demobilization period.

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REFUSES TO ADVANCE SUGAR RATION--The Office of Price Administration rejected today a request that sugar stamp 39 be validated Dec. 17 instead of Jan. 1. It said sales created by such action would result in a "tight" sugar situation.

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\$550,000,000 FUND TO UMRRA APPROVED--The House approved a conference report today appropriating the final \$550,000,000 of this country's first year commitment to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

Senate approval of the agreement between the two houses seems certain.

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FINNS SEEK COTTON LOAN--Finland is negotiating with the United States Export-Import Bank for a separate loan of around \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 for the purchase of cotton in the United States, an official of the bank stated today.

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2 MEN INDICTED IN POTATO RACKET--As a Federal grand jury in Newark returned an indictment yesterday against a South Jersey dairy farmer and trucker, the United States Department of Agriculture let it be known here that its agents were continuing investigations "from New England to West Virginia" of a potato racket in which dairymen are alleged to have returned to normal trade channels carloads of surplus potatoes given them free by the Government for a cattle-feeding experiment.

Elmer Salisbury, 39 years old, of Julisutown, N.J., and Walter Liedtka, 22, of New Egypt, N.J., were indicted for conspiracy to divert illegally 120 freight carloads of surplus, which the Department of Agriculture had given without charge to Salisbury to feed 400 head of cattle on his farm.

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ADMIT SUGAR-RATION PLOT--Three of seven defendants accused of conspiracy to defraud the Government's rationing program of 25,000,000 pounds of sugar eliminated themselves from the trial which opened today before Judge Thomas F. Meaney in Federal court by pleading guilty.

The pleas were entered by the Fresh Grown Preserve Corp., Murray Greenberg, president, of Brooklyn, and his brother, Leo Greenberg of Passaic.

(Turn to page 2 for other items  
from today's New York Times.)

Farm Digest 2275-45-1

From the New York Times, Dec. 12 (Cont.) -

OPA PRICES NYLON FOR APPAREL LINING--The Government will sell 4,500,000 yards of surplus nylon parachute fabric as lining material for low cost clothing from Dec. 17 through Dec. 30 it was announced tonight. The program was worked out by the Civilian Production Administration and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, to relieve the shortage of linings for clothing

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RYE PRICES OFF IN BRISK SELLING--Talk of liberal deliveries of cash rye on December contracts and selling of December against purchases of May in the way of backspreading resulted in the current delivery of that grain breaking  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents a bushel and closing at the bottom price today on the Board of Trade. May was off  $7/8$  cent. July held at the ceiling, and September was off  $1/8$  cent.

Trading in wheat was light with December and May holding at ceiling prices and the new crop months were unchanged to  $1/7$  cent higher. Oats finished  $3/8$  cent lower to  $1/4$  cent higher. Barley was unchanged to  $1/2$  cent higher and corn was unchanged, all deliveries of the latter holding at permissible maximum prices, a condition that has existed for over a month.

Only a few cars of cash corn and oats were sold in the spot market with ceiling prices paid.

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COTTON FUTURES UP 4 TO 12 POINTS--The cotton market was moderately active yesterday and closed 4 to 12 points higher on the New York Cotton Exchange, with the March and May, 1946, deliveries showing the most strength.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 12 -

BYRNES DEFINES U. S. AIMS FOR GERMANY--James F. Byrnes, Secretary of State, issued tonight a statement of American policy toward Germany which clarifies this government's intentions regarding food and coal, reparations and the establishment of German administrative machinery.

The prevention of mass starvation in Germany is to be attained by maintaining the German diet at 1,550 calories a day during this winter.

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BOWLES DECRIES U. S. FAILURE TO RATION CLOTHES--Chester Bowles, chief of the Office of Price Administration, said today that the OPA had done a "bad job" with the price control of clothing and that the government's worst home front mistake of the war was its failure to ration clothing in 1943.

Mr. Bowles said at a press conference here today that the present shortage of almost all types of clothing and fabrics and the admittedly inflated price of much that is available were the direct results of this failure.

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From the Wall Street Journal, New York, Dec. 12 -

I.C.C. RATES (Editorial)--Judging from the vote, 277 to 45, by which the Bulwinkle bill passed the House its approval by the Senate seems likely. This measure would exempt from the anti-trust laws any railroad rates and rate-making machinery which the Interstate Commerce Commission had approved as in the public interest.

Representative Tarver of Georgia objects to the bill as calculated to defeat efforts of the South and West to obtain relief from the rate discrimination which he believes those sections to be suffering.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 12 -

WOULD EXTEND TRUMAN WAR POWERS FOR YEAR, Washington, (AP) - A one-year extension of the broad war powers of the President was recommended today by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The House previously had approved a six-month extension, until June 30, 1946, but Senator O'Mahoney (Dem., Wyo.) said the Senate committee approved Dec., 31, 1946, after receiving assurance no additional time would be requested.....

TRADE OPPOSES BILL TO BAR SHORT SELLING IN COMMODITIES - Sharp trade opposition is forming against any attempt to curtail or prohibit short selling in commodity futures markets.

This problem has been brought to the fore once more following the introduction of a new bill by Senator Capper (Rep., Kansas) which would prohibit speculative shortselling of butter and eggs futures.....

REFEREE BARS PLEA TO STOP RYE ACTION, Washington - A motion to dismiss the Government's complaint that General Foods Corp., Daniel F. Rice & Co. and others "cornered" the rye market was denied today by a referee of the Department of Agriculture at a special hearing.

Attorneys for the group contended that the Commodity Exchange Act, under which the hearing was called, is unconstitutional and that the complaint is not in conformity with a section of the act under which it was drawn....

TERMS SUBMITTED ON COTTON EXPORTS - Agreements setting forth the conditions governing financing of cotton shipments under the \$100,000,000 Export-Import Bank program are understood to have been submitted recently to banks in several foreign countries for their approval.

Presuming the foreign banks and their Governments accept the financing terms, it is believed negotiations can be completed within the near future with several countries.....

FARM VALUES UP ANOTHER 2 PER CENT, Washington, (AP) - Farm real estate values continued to increase during the four months ended Nov. 1, moving upward an average of two per cent.

This increase, reported in a statement of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics today, brings the United States index based on 1912-1914 values to 133-- a rise of 11 per cent from November, 1944, and 60 per cent above 1935-39.

In general, the bureau said, the end of the war appears as yet to have had little effect upon the land market.

COFFEE SUBSIDY SALES ON INCREASE - Directive 87 under which the coffee industry will operate during the life of the 3c subsidy program was amended by Judge Collet yesterday to eliminate some of the most objectionable features of the original draft.....

From the New York Journal of Commerce; Dec. 12 (Cont) -

MORE SUGAR DUE FOR CITRUS PACK, Washington - Sugar allowances for canning and bottling citrus juices have been increased from 80 per cent of the average number of pounds of sugar used per gallon of citrus juice in 1941 to 90 per cent of the amount, the Office of Price Administration announced today....

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CUBAN CROP SALE PROGRESS SLOW - Progress on completion of Cuban sugar negotiations evidently is slow. It could be that the negotiations have been completed but if that is the fact the industry has not learned of it. In principle, the price has been established satisfactorily at 3.67½¢ but details, such as the size of a refined sugar quota, subsidies to be paid on exports of basic foods to Cuba and future assurances on tariffs and quotas remain to be settled....

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FLOUR - Withdrawal by many mills slows flour export business. Cautious selling policy is influenced by large backlogs, uncertainty over subsidy and difficulty in obtaining cash wheat.

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OTHER MARKETS - Hogs actively sought and substantial marketings fully cleared at ceilings --- Live chickens improved --- Apples firm --- Vegetables slow --- Slow sale for Christmas roasting --- Many retail stores out of butter supplies --- Cheese extremely short --- Eggs continue in sellers' market.

- - -

CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED, Editorial - The Office of Price Administration has not only abandoned its time schedule for ending ceiling controls over major groups of prices at this time, but has recommended restoration of price control over citrus fruits. President Truman is expected to urge reimposition of controls over the distribution of building materials in a special message to Congress today. The Civilian Production Administration plans to issue order to channel critical raw materials into certain essential uses.

Supplies of many commodities are proving to be a good deal tighter than Government officials had anticipated. Price Administrator Chester Bowles admitted frankly this week that his own agency's time table for lifting controls had been based upon estimates of 4,500,000 unemployed by this time, whereas unemployment actually is less than 2,000,000 today. Consumer incomes and demands for goods have increased further.

The two-faced economic program repeatedly outlined by the President, Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion Snyder and other key Administration spokesmen is no longer realistic. It sought to combat simultaneously the possibility of inflation and deflation, but only the former is really a threat today. In its place should be adopted a consistent anti-inflation policy....

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COTTON PRICES - Cotton men see the possibility of considerably higher raw staple prices over the next few months without any aid through higher parity legislation, if present market trend continues. Short current crop, poor grade of staple, and inflationary trend are cited as main reasons.

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From The St. Paul Sunday Pioneer Press, Dec. 9 -

FARM POLICY SEEN AWAITING 1946 ELECTIONS - Morris, Minn. - The new national farm plan will not emerge from the Truman administration until after the 1946 congressional elections, it was predicted here late Saturday by Alfred D. Stedman, associate editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch.

When that plan does appear, it will be an effort to express the views of the farmers of the country, he said. Secretary Anderson has held, or will hold conferences with the leaders of all the big farm organizations to get their opinions, he explained.

Secretary Anderson has grown in stature and in prestige since going into the cabinet, Stedman said, but his real troubles still are ahead of him.

There is evidence that the U. S. Department of Agriculture under his leadership has more real responsibility for national farm policy-making than it has had in the past 25 years, Stedman said.

\* \* \*

From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 9 -

COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE SILENT ON PROPOSALS - There has been no announcement from the special advisory committee of cotton shippers of a program to dispose of the stocks of low grade cottons held by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Some of the committeemen have returned to their homes, silent on whether they have reached a solution or whether further discussions will be carried on. It is apparent that the announcement of their recommendations, if made, will come from the Department of Agriculture, and then not as a single announced program, but as a series of announcements as the program is made effective.

Cotton for Germany and Japan was discussed. As two of the major users of the types of cottons awaiting disposal, they offer the best solution to get rid of the surplus.

There are some who see Senator Eastland's recent speech in the Senate as an introductory move to overcome opposition to a program which will see cotton moving to both Germany and Japan--not the prewar quantities, but in amounts large enough to supply the domestic needs of both countries.

\* \* \*

From The Detroit Free Press, Dec. 8 -

BOWLES' DEFENSE OF OPA - Editorial - Credit OPA Administrator Chester Bowles with the courage of his convictions. His speech before the National Association of Manufacturers, in vigorous defense of price controls, carried the fight for their continuance into the camp of one of OPA's severest critics.

There can be no question that OPA price ceilings have saved the Nation's consumers billions. There can be no question that these controls have held down inflation. Nor can the danger of removing them in the near future be denied.

In respect to Senator Taft's charge, also made before the N.A.M., that Bowles is "gradually setting up a complete control of profits instead of prices," there is OPA's record in other divisions. The charge of attempted conspiracy does not stand up in face of recent history. Price controls still remain one of the Nation's strongest bulwarks against inflation.

\* \* \*

From The Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 7 -

AUCTION OF MILK SURPLUS URGED BY LEAGUE OFFICIAL - Albany (AP) - The Dairy-men's League proposes that surplus milk be auctioned to butter and cheese makers.

Frank Lent, the cooperative association's attorney, described the plan yesterday at a meeting of producers and distributors..

Predicting there would be a surplus of 380,000,000 pounds in the state milk shed by next June, Lent recommended that handlers be permitted to auction extra milk in New York City. Prices would be less than those fixed by the Metropolitan milk marketing order.

The meeting was one of several requested by the federal and state agriculture departments, which seek suggestions for amendments to the marketing order and will hold public hearings after the preliminary conferences.

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LEAGUE SCORES MILK SUBSIDIES - Syracuse (AP) - Representatives of three dairy farmer organizations, uniting to obtain milk price adjustments, were told today that the government's subsidy program has led to "a complete misunderstanding among consumers of the costs and value of milk."

Frank B. Lent of the Dairymen's League Cooperative association, declared: "Moving in a united effort, the farmers' organizations seek amendment of the New York federal-state marketing orders in regard to the class one (fluid) milk price to provide for orderly and automatic transition from subsidy-supported producer returns to market-supported returns at not less than prevailing levels."

\* \* \*

From The Record Stockman, Dec. 6 -

SOIL CONSERVATION PRACTICES REPAIR HAVOC ON OLD FARMS - Tucumcari, N. M. - The land use havoc created by the homestead law is being remedied by conservation practices applied in cooperation with the 1,240,000 acre Canadian River Soil Conservation District which has been in operation since 1939, according to Harold Bradford, district conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service.

The homestead law under which this area was settled created havoc because it required that a settler break out and cultivate 40 acres of every 160 acres. The Tucumcari area was settled by 1909. This law didn't take into consideration the ability of the land to produce sustained yields nor the size of a unit necessary to support a family, Bradford says.

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PENICILLIN PROMISES TO HELP IN FIGHTING BOTH MASTITIS TYPES - New evidence that penicillin may be of tremendous value in coping with one of the dairy farmer's worst problems-- mastitis--has been reported by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

"Research with penicillin indicates that it is useful in combatting both types of mastitis--the strep type and the staph type," the report says. "Moreover penicillin is generally less irritating to the delicate udder tissues than products which have been used heretofore against mastitis."

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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST  
(For December 13, 1945)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
Washington 25, D.C.

(The newspapers and ~~magazines from which these~~ agricultural items are taken are on file in Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212)

From the New York Times, Dec. 13 -

U. S. OPENS DRIVE TO SMASH BLACK MARKET IN CLOTHING--The Federal Government moved here through three of its most important departments yesterday to smash a nationwide black market in clothing, textiles and allied products and jail those who had been operating it. Although the black market operations reach into every city and town in the country, 90 per cent of its illegal activities originate in New York City, Federal officials asserted.

United States Attorney General Tom Clark, who came here from Washington to start the drive, and United States Attorney John F. X. McGohey, in charge of the round-up of the black marketers, said every possible Federal statute would be used in the campaign that will be pressed until it results in the resumption of a free flow of textiles and clothing in normal business channels and at prices much lower than at present.

The evidence is being obtained and some is already in hand as the result of investigations conducted by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Treasury and Department of Agriculture investigators and Office of Price Administration representatives.

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HEAVY CREAM BAN IS DUE TO GO SOON--Milk production has already begun to increase and supplies probably will be sufficient in a month to permit relaxation of the ban on heavy cream, N. H. Rathbun, president of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, reported yesterday.

He spoke at a public hearing of the New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Nutrition, called to provide suggestions for action when the Legislature meets next month. Other witnesses at the all day session urged an expanded school lunch program and continued emphasis on nutrition education despite an expected easing of food shortages.

Mr. Rathbun warned that while milk production is on the upgrade, after a marked seasonal decline that some spokesmen said might last till spring, the removal of Federal subsidy payments, scheduled for June 30, may cut down potential supplies.

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MEAT BLACK MARKET WORSE THAN EVER--Between the Army and the hotel chefs, the New York housewife's chances of getting a roast of prime beef for the Christmas table without paying tribute to the black market were glimmering yesterday.

Office of Price Administration executives admitted freely that the black market in meat was worse than ever before and might get even worse as a result of the new set-aside order under which the War Department will take 30 per cent of the kill of the better grades of beef, beginning Sunday.

Because New Yorkers buy a greater percentage of choice meats, in neighborhood butcher shops as well as in hotels and restaurants, than the people of any other city, the Army set-aside will have a greater impact on local markets than on others.

(Turn to page 5 for other  
items from today's N.Y. Times)

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Farm Digest 2285-45-1



From the New York Times, Dec. 13 (Cont.) -

**GRAIN PRICES DOWN IN WAVE OF SELLING**--Grain prices decline today on the Board of Trade, general selling developing on the weakness in securities, reports of light showfalls in parts of the West and Southwest and failure of cash oats to hold at ceiling prices after having brought maximum prices for two days. Liquidation was on in December rye, and that delivery lost  $33/4$  cents a bushel net, while May was off  $25/8$  cents. July finished unchanged at the ceiling and September was down  $5/8$  cent. December and May wheat finished unchanged at maximum prices, with the new crop months off  $3/8$  to  $7/8$  cent. Oats lost  $7.8$  to  $1\ 1/8$  cent. Corn and barley prices were unchanged.

Part of the selling of rye was attributed to a growing belief that no change would be made in the price or the effective date of the ceiling announced recently on the 1946 crop.

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**PRICES OF COTTON IRREGULAR IN DAY**--The cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange was somewhat irregular yesterday and closed 6 points higher to 6 points lower. The market opened steady, 5 to 9 points net higher, making new highs for the season on old-crop months, but later the market net hedges and profit taking. Near months were again firm, although there was hedging in March on the scale up.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 13 -

**COURT TEST OPENS TODAY ON 10% FREIGHT RATE RISE**--A special three-judge court will start hearings in United States District Court today on a petition by New York State for a review of an Interstate Commerce Commission decision requiring a 10 per cent increase in interstate freight rates, effective Jan. 1. The decision increased class rates 10 per cent in the North and lowered them 10 percent in the South and West.

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**STATE GRANGE HEARS PLEA FOR PRODUCTIVE FORESTS**--A progressive agricultural civilization cannot be maintained in this country without productive forests, the New York State Grange was told today at its annual convention here.

Many of the most important contributions of wood to farm life are in the form of products "so completely altered that the average person does not know that they are made wholly or partly of wood," Dean Joseph S. Illick, of the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse, told the meeting. Citing the extensive farm use of paper and plastic products, he reported that cattle food now is being made of wood, and predicted greater use of wood in the preparation of farm fertilizers.

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**MEN'S CLOTHING INDUSTRY ASKS CEILING RELIEF**--Unless the Office of Price Administration grants ceiling relief to the men's clothing industry, following increased wage grants affecting 150,000 workers, trade leaders see widespread losses ahead, with the possibility of shutdowns. Wage, old-age and paid-holiday benefits equivalent to a minimum of 20 per cent increase were announced by Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, at an estimated cost of \$60,000,000 to clothing manufacturers, retroactive to Dec. 10.

**46 COTTON TEXTILE SUPPLY SEEN SHARPLY BELOW NEED**-- The coming year promises a deficit of cotton textiles amounting to 1,000,000,000 to 2,000,000,000 linear yards below anticipated demand, according to estimates supplied by Saul Nelson, of the Civilian Production Administration to the Cotton Textile Institute.

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Farm Digest 2285-45-2



EARLY DECISION ON PRICE CONTROL EXTENSION ASKED, Washington - Congress should take action early next year to extend the Office of Price Administration from its present June 30, 1946, expiration date to a Dec. 31, 1946, expiration date, John D. Small, Civilian Production Administrator today told the Senate Small Business Committee.

Mr. Small, the first Government official to publicly name a date on which he thought price control laws could be allowed to expire, emphasized first that the Senate Small Business Committee at an early date should recommend OPA extension and secondly, that "early next year Congress extend the Price Control Act and not wait until the expiration date in June.".....

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LAND GRANT MEASURE IS SIGNED BY TRUMAN, Washington, (AP) - President Truman signed into law today legislation repealing next Oct. 1 the old "land grant" rail rate under which Government military property is moved at half the regular rates....

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FSA LINES OPEN TO LOCAL AGENTS - Borrowers from the Farm Security Administration are now permitted to place insurance with their own local agents, reports Oscar H. West, Washington representative of the National Association of Insurance Agents. This is now possible under the Farm Security Administration's "Revision of Contract to Insure," administratively approved and sent to FSA regional and field offices throughout the country in the late summer. Prior to the new arrangement, all insurance on borrower-owned property was placed by FSA with the Houston Fire & Casualty Insurance Co. under contract made in 1939.....

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HIGHER PRODUCTION ONLY ARGUMENT FOR DROPPING CONTROLS - Whether Government controls pertaining to the cotton textile industry should be dropped, altered or retained recently has been the subject of some loose talk and unrealistic thinking. The net result has been to confuse the issues and probably cause a serious delay in repricing that not only may cost the industry out-of-pocket money, but lift the debate from the realm of speculation and make extension of Government regulation a virtual certainty.

The bald fact remains that increased production is the only solution of the present problem, yet this fact has been largely ignored in the welter of particularizing that has taken place whereby minor issues have been emphasized out of all proportion to their importance.

Controls are going to stay as long as production and demand are so badly out of balance as they are today, and the longer it takes to resolve differences with Government agencies on a basis that is equitable to both sides and acceptable to the preponderant majority of the industry, then the more acute the shortage of goods will become at cutter, wholesale and retail levels and the more remote will be the chance of presenting a case for decontrol....

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KNIT GOODS.- Underwear market learns that OPA has definite plans to extend price relief on more spring numbers under its pending interim order expected around Jan. 1. Said to follow this will be the proposed over-all order on light and heavy-weights

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 13 (Cont) -

BURLAP QUOTAS - In an amendment to M-47, CPA yesterday replaced bag trade burlap allocation certificates with automatic quotas for the first quarter of 1946, pegged at 110 per cent of Sequence 17. Total is seen at about 200,000,000 yards, but only even or slightly less than that for the current period when supplementary allocations are considered. The order also brings new users, such as the automobile and furniture industries, under the allotments.

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1946 FOOD OUTLOOK - Drop of 5 per cent in retail food prices, intensified competition in processed foods, looms for 1946, Paul S. Willis, GMA president, tells New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Nutrition at hearing here.

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SUGAR FOR HOLIDAYS? - To aid the housewife during the holiday, it has been suggested to OPA that the effective date of sugar stamp 39 be moved up from Jan. 1 to Dec. 17. Such a move would not involve any increase in the over-all quantity of sugar consumed.

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SUBSIDY COFFEE SALES - Based on sales since Nov. 19, it is estimated in trade circles that subsidy sales of 6,000,000 bags of coffee will be completed by Jan. 31, two months before the deadline. Brazil is the preponderant seller, mild countries standing pat on the theory that the mild situation is fundamentally sound. It is estimated new supplies between now and March if subsidy sales are limited to 6,000,000 bags will total about 8,000,000 bags, consumption 12,000,000. That would exhaust our 4,000,000 stockpile, probably would call for an expansion of the present subsidized quantity.

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PRESERVE CAMPAIGN - Preserve Industry Council elects board members to direct industry-wide promotional campaign to be launched in 1946 in effort to maintain wartime production, consumption gains.

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CANNED FOODS - Buyers continue to remain on sidelines on canned citrus juices, pending further pack and price developments. Nov. 1 canned pea carryover is seen insuring substantial offerings from first hands after turn of year.

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OTHER MARKETS - Flour market inactive due to scarcity of mill offerings; export inquiry maintained .... Hog marketings quickly cleared at fully steady prices.... Christmas greens unchanged.... Cauliflower, beans higher... Miscellaneous dressed poultry scarce.... Heavy Army egg purchases.... Butter, cheese pinch growing.

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From The Baltimore Sun, Dec. 12 -

ESSENTIALS FOR FARM SECURITY OUTLINED - Representative Pace (D., Ga.), yesterday outlined six essentials for farm security in an address to the Maryland fertilizer conference of the American Plant Food Council here.

The six "essentials of farm security" the Congressman outlined were: parity prices, crop insurance, farm and production credit, orderly marketing, rural electrification and soil conservation.

\* \* \*

From The Texas Farming and Citriculture, Nov. -

THE ROAD AHEAD FOR CITRUS - Editorial - In regard to market support for good citrus, the prospect is that national prosperity will suffer no serious setbacks for several years at least, and may hold continuously to a satisfactory level. Our ablest economists have learned much from what happened after World War I and are adopting strong measures to avert any repetition of that disastrous recession.

There is prospect of a higher wage level, which, of course, will increase buying power for citrus. Economic history, especially that of the last two wars, has completely proved that in periods of relatively high wages the returns to the growers of agricultural products are relatively high. When industrial payrolls are large agricultural income is correspondingly large. The two go up and down together.

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From The Atlanta Constitution, Dec. 7 -

ARNALL ASKS \$20,000 BE SPENT ON DRINK-MORE-MILK CAMPAIGN - Although a milk shortage at the present time has been reported, Gov. Arnall has announced he will ask the Georgia Budget Commission to allow the state milk control board to spend their \$20,000 surplus remaining from 1944 operations on a "drink more milk" campaign.

He pointed out that a "drink more milk" campaign might encourage Georgia farmers to produce more milk.

He also urged the board to seek a continuation of the seven and a half cent per gallon subsidy now being paid the milk producers by the government.

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From The New York Times, Dec. 9 -

STATE FORESTRY PROJECT - Editorial - This is the tenth anniversary of the first plantings in the Prairie State Forestry Project, generally called the Shelter Belt. During the years 1935-37 it stirred up the nation's greatest forestry controversy. The opponents of the plan called it a fantastic dream, an impractical undertaking. Today, the Shelter Belt is a definite success and accomplishing the purposes for which some 200 million trees were planted.

The project was initiated by Franklin Roosevelt.

In his recent report Mr. E. N. Munns, in charge of the undertaking, says, "In Terms of meeting the main purpose for which the belts were established, that of protection against winds, the project was a success. For the area as a whole, 78.4 percent of the belts were rated as good or better, and only 10.4 percent as unsatisfactory. Benefits derived include wind erosion control, landscape improvement, protection of farmsteads, lumber production and sanctuary for wild birds."

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Farm Digest 2285-45-5

FARMER BOYS IN ARMY GO BACK TO SOIL - Chicago - Major Harold W. Dunn, chief counsel for Fort Sheridan separation center, said that the majority of farmer-servicemen who have been discharged at Fort Sheridan will return to the soil in Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Primary influences in keeping the GI farmers at home seems to be the higher prices for crops and live stock and the desires of the service-regimented men to be their own bosses, he added. Most of them will return to farms of their parents but many will have their own acreages, he said.

The percentage figures of servicemen returning to the farms have been "considerably higher" than army authorities expected, Dunn said. The discharged soldiers going back on the farm also seem to be "the happiest and most assured of the lot," he said.

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POWS TO REMAIN IN COTTON FIELDS - Atlanta - German prisoners of war are scheduled to work in the cotton fields of Mississippi for at least another month after December 15, Major General Edward H. Brooks, commanding general of the Fourth Service Command, announced today.

The time extension was made, General Brooks said, because about 30 percent of the Mississippi cotton crop is still in the field.

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COTTON TOPS NEW PRICE FOR RAYON - Washington - While American farmers are receiving highest prices for cotton for any month since September of 1925, the price of cotton is now higher than is comparable rayon staple fiber. While this makes little difference at present, the department of agriculture warns that this is a highly unfavorable factor in the long-time outlook.

Rayon fiber made progress when it sold for twice as much as strict middling. Now rayon staple fiber is 5 percent cheaper than middling and 12 percent cheaper than strict middling.

\* \* \*

From The St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 7 -

CO-OPS CALL FOR DAIRY SUBSIDIES TO END BY JAN. 1 - Chicago - A fight to end dairy subsidies by New Year's day was touched off late Thursday by the closing session on the convention of the National Cooperative Milk Producers federation here.

If the ending of the subsidies "can be done within the next few weeks," the convention said in a resolution, "we urge that an immediate announcement be made and that plans to that end be started immediately throughout the nation."

Boiled down, the action of the convention means these things:

Secretary Anderson's proposal to time the ending of subsidies between March 1 and April 30 is disapproved, because the convention feels there would be danger of a price break in that period. It urges instead, removal in the next few weeks or delay until after June 30.

Price ceilings would be removed or increased in the amount of the subsidies simultaneously with the ending of the subsidies. The convention is moving promptly to make sure that, whenever the subsidies are ended, there shall be a price support program, backed by buying with government funds. Anderson and Stitts indicated they favor this. Finally, the effect would be to assure that consumer prices, which are pictured as having been rolled down by the subsidies, would be rolled up again when the subsidies are removed.

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(The newspapers and magazines which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 14 -

**BEST BEEF SCARCE, BUT HOTELS GET IT--**The amount of choice meat bought by hotels and restaurants in the New York metropolitan area has increased at least 50 per cent--possibly far more than that--in the three weeks since red point rationing ended, while the housewife's chance of getting first quality beef at legal prices have grown slimmer by the day.

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**COMMODITY PRICES DECLINE IN WEEK--**Primary market prices decline from their recent peaks in the week ended Dec. 6 because of lower prices for agricultural commodities.

Marking the first decrease since mid-September, the index of commodity prices prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, dropped 0.3 per cent to 106.5 per cent of the 1926 average, 0.4 per cent above four weeks ago and 2.2 per cent higher than the corresponding week of 1944.

Average prices of farm products decreased 1.3 per cent during the week chiefly because of substantial declines for livestock and for fresh fruits and vegetables. Average prices for farm products were 0.6 per cent higher than a month ago and 4.7 per cent above early December, 1944.

Decreases for fresh fruits and vegetables were largely responsible for the decline of 0.4 per cent in the group index for foods. On the average, foods were 1.0 per cent higher than early November and 2.6 per cent above early December 1944.

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**NRDGA ASKS OPA TO RELEASE MEN'S LINES SAID TO BE 'IMPOUNDED' BY MAP PROGRAM--**Producers of men's shirts and shorts are halting all shipments because further deliveries would involve violation of MAP regulations, it was declared yesterday by Lew Hahn, general manager of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, in a telegram sent to Chester Bowles, Office of Price Administration head.

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**DEWEY TELLS 3-JUDGE U. S. COURT FREIGHT RATE RISE IMPERILS STATE--**Governor Dewey in an affidavit submitted yesterday to a three-judge Federal court charged that the Interstate Commerce Commission's order for an increase in New York freight rates threatened the economic welfare of the State and its reconversion program.

The court reserved decision on the application of New York and eight other northern States for an injunction temporarily restraining the ICC from putting the order in effect on Jan. 1, under which certain freight rates would be increased 10 per cent in the North and reduced in like amount in the South.  
(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's New York Times.)

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From the New York Times, Dec. 14 (Cont.) -

OPA ROLLS BACK MEN'S WEAR PRICES--Retail prices for men's and boys' shirts, shorts and pajamas will be about 5 per cent lower after Jan. 1, as a consequence of an order reducing manufacturers' mark-ups for these items, the Office of Price Administration announced today.

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COTTON PRICES OFF BY 9 TO 14 POINTS--The cotton market on the New York Cotton Exchange moved somewhat irregularly early yesterday but later eased and closed 9 to 14 points net lower on liquidation and increased hedge selling. Starting unchanged to 4 points down, it held around the previous closing levels for a time, but met increased pressure as the session progressed. The trade demand was not too insistent, and there were rumors that the Commodity Credit Corporation might sell some more of their stock of cotton next week.

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FINLAND GETS LOAN TO BUY COTTON HERE--The Export-Import Bank announced tonight that it has agreed to lend Finland \$5,000,000 to finance the purchase of some 46,000 bales of American cotton. This is the first withdrawal from a general credit of \$100,000,000 set up by the bank in October to finance shipments of cotton to European countries.

It was disclosed meanwhile that Finland already has begun exporting pulpwood to the United States and that thousands of tons are ready for shipment.

The term of the cotton credit will be fifteen months, with a yearly interest rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. United States shippers and their banks will take part in the financing.

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GRAIN TRADE SHOWS STRONG UNDERTONE--Grain markets showed a stronger undertone today on the Board of Trade, after rye had broken early on stop-loss selling, but the close was about the top. Oats gained  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent up. Corn was unchanged at ceiling prices and rye finished unchanged to 1 cent up, May leading. Barley was unchanged to  $\frac{1}{8}$  cent up.

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SENATORS SPEED FUNDS FOR UNRRA--The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approve today the House-adopted legislation under which the United States would pledge a second \$1,350,000,000 contribution to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in 1946. Plans were made to take the measure to the floor for completion of Congressional action before the Christmas recess.

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PRODUCTION CURB SEEN IN OPA POLICY--Chester Bowles, National Price Administrator, and Senator Kenneth S. Wherry, Nebraska Republican, agreed last night that American enterprise and increased production of goods should make it possible to increase wages and reduce prices, but differed on whether it could be done now.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 14 -

CORN PARADOX, Chicago - The corn refining industry, which wants but a meagre 4% of this country's third largest corn crop in history, has scant hope of getting it. There's plenty of corn. Much of it, however, is "soft",..... But the major problem for the factories that process corn into syrup, sugar, starch, and oil, is not the quality but one of price ceilings.

The farmer can get \$1.18½ a bushel by selling....to refiners. By feeding it to hogs he get the equivalent of \$1.48½ at present hog ceiling prices.....

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SEEDS - The O.P.A. said the money advances that country dealers and commercial processors can make to producers of thresher-run legume and grass seeds sold on a quality-cleaned basis, may not exceed 75% of the maximum prices that could have been paid if the seeds had been sold on a dockage basis at the time of delivery.

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U.S. INVITES 14 NATIONS TO DISCUSS TARIFF CUTS, Washington, (AP) - The United States has invited 14 of the world's key trading nations to a "roundtable" discussion designed to cut down tariff barriers and begin the task of expanding world trade.

Countries reportedly invited to the preliminary meeting are Britain, Russia, France, China, Canada, Brazil, Australia, Cuba, New Zealand, Belgium, Holland, Czechoslovakia, South Africa and India.

No date has been set yet, but the officials said it probably would be held in the spring and might take place in Europe.....

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FINLAND GETS \$5 MILLION COTTON LOAN, Washington, (INS) - The Export-Import Bank announced it had granted a \$5 million loan to Finland for purchase of cotton in the United States. The loan is to be repaid within 15 months with interest at the rate of 2½% annually.

Purchases....are to be made by private Finnish importers.... All shipments must be made by December 12, 1946...

- - -

OLIVER CORP. - Oliver Corp. probably will report reduced sales for the fiscal year ended October 31. Earnings, too, probably were not up to those for the preceding year. In common with the farm equipment industry as a whole, the company paid smaller dividends in the latest fiscal year than in the preceding. Profit margins have been squeezed between rising costs and prices frozen at 1941 levels. While there is a large demand for its products, Oliver Corp. is having trouble increasing its output. Among the greatest difficulties are strikes which have tied up two of the firm's plants for seven weeks. Shortages of labor and materials, particularly malleable castings, also are bottlenecks.

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From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 14.-

WALLACE PLANNING CO-ORDINATION UNIT, Washington - The Department of Commerce is now studying a new plan for establishing an Office of Industry Councils and Advisory Committee, with a view of providing facilities for consultation between the department, other Federal agencies and private industry.

If undertaken, the project will provide the machinery for utilizing many of the industry advisory committees which served the War Production Board and other agencies during the war. Commerce officials have for some time expressed a desire to inherit these committees.....

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FUTURE EXCHANGES TO SEEK RECOGNITION - The National Association of Commodity Exchanges and Allied Trades, Inc., is getting ready to launch a broad campaign for a greater public acceptance of commodity futures markets as necessary cogs in modern marketing machinery and for the freeing of these markets "as soon as possible from the by-product of wartime price controls.....

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CITRUS FRUIT PRICES, Editorial - The question whether or not to reinstate ceilings upon citrus fruits has become a test case in price control policy.

After price ceilings have been in effect for some time, it is inevitable that some dealers will raise prices, particularly of higher quality products, when controls are lifted. With the passage of time, however, the large supply will tend to decline again. If control authorities do not trust the operation of competition to set prices when the indicated supply exceeds demand, controls are likely to be continued indefinitely.

It would be unfortunate if this experiment is terminated prematurely, so that it cannot be determined whether instances of sales above former ceilings are exceptional, or reflect more fundamental forces. If price ceilings are not to be ended when supply exceeds demand, when are they to be terminated?

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COLLETT STUDIES CEILING ON CITRUS, Washington, (AP) - Stabilization Administrator John C. Collett is studying protests of Secretary of Agriculture Anderson and Congressmen from affected States against OPA proposals for immediate reinstatement of citrus price ceilings....

- - -

SUGAR BY-PRODUCT IMPORTS CURBED, Washington, (AP) - Government officials said today only products containing 15 per cent or less of sugar would be permitted to come into the United States as a result of an order issued recently by the Department of Agriculture. The order requires that importers get a license from the Department of Agriculture when importing products with any amount of sugar.

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BUTTER - Markets acutely short and extremely firm at full ceilings with renewed reports of extensive black marketing. The pinch is being accentuated by the current decision of government officials to withdraw further tenders from Governmental stockpiles.

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 11 -

COUNTY AGENTS TAKE STEPS TO MEET FARM CRISIS - Minnesota county agents are accepting the recent challenge given by Secretary Clinton P. Anderson to leaders of agricultural thinking to stir up discussion among farmers all over the country of the kind of a new national farm program the United States should have for the postwar years.

"It's a hot spot," remarked one man high in the State Extension service Monday. He seemed to have in mind the sharp cleavage that is developing between agricultural economists on one hand and farm organizations on the other. That cleavage is over the question whether the new farm program shall be based on the principle of "free prices" with government payments to eke out farm income in the pinches, or on the principle of government supports of farm prices, with little or no reliance on payments.....

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From the Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 11 -

BLANFORD WARNS OF MILK CRISIS - Dr. Charles J. Blanford, of New York, federal state marketing administrator for the six-state New York milkshed, today warned the dairy industry that a return to profitable normalcy for milk producers probably must include some program for equalizing summer and winter production volume.

The federal administrator addressed the Kiwanis club at their first annual rural-urban luncheon.

Dr. Blanford told farmers it is certain they must plan to "level off milk production" to ease marketing situations in which early summer production veritably floods the metropolitan market while November shortages plague it....

- - -

FIRST FARM IN STATE UNDER LOAN PLAN GOES TO VETERAN, Utica - Twenty-four-year-old Michael Busyczak, bomber co-pilot who saw two years of combat in the South Pacific will become owner of his own farm tomorrow.

He will take title to a 132-acre property at Vernon, Oneida county, through a veterans farm ownership loan made by the Oneida office of the Farm Security Administration. Busyczak's loan is the first to be closed in New York state, according to Roger H. Cross, F.S.A. representative at Oneida.

Under the terms of the loan, Busyczak will have 40 years to repay the loan, which bears three per cent interest....

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From the Davenport, Iowa Democrat, Dec. 9 -

SEES BETTER PRICES FOR SHEEP, LAMBS, Ames, Ia. - Sheep and lambs probably will bring more on the market the first half of next year than they did the first half of this year.

Iowa State college economists point out that seasonal changes in the subsidy payments for finished lambs will strengthen the prices the first of the year. This lamb subsidy advanced 50 cents Feb. 1. The subsidy also is 65 cents per hundred higher on lambs weighing more than 90 pounds. Too heavy runs immediately after subsidy increases could break the prices, the economists point out. So they suggest that producers avoid bunching their lamb runs after these changes...

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From the Kansas City Star, Dec. 9 -

LOSE ON LAMB SUBSIDY - The federal subsidy to lamb feeders again worked in reverse last week, while the subsidy to slaughterers was increased on all classes of livestock.

At the close of the previous week there was a seasonal hike of 50 cents a hundred pounds in the lamb subsidy which was offset by net declines of 50 to 75 cents in market prices last week. At one time, prices were off as much as \$1 from the previous week.

This was a repetition of the market action following the announcement of the feeder sheep and lamb subsidy program, which became effective in August. Prices slumped as much as \$3.60, compared with the initial subsidy payments of \$1.50 for 65 to 90-pounders and \$2.15 for over 90-pound weight.....

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From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 11 -

LAND REFORM IN JAPAN - Editorial - The latest directive issued through Gen. Mac Arthur to the Japanese people strikes closest of all to the heart of political and economic reform. Restoring the land to the people has always been, historically, the greatest single impetus to democracy.....

Such fine phases of policy as this blow at feudalism still wait, however, on further execution. Where are the economic and political missions of American experts which must be sent to Japan to study whether practice squares with policy, and what further policy must be made?

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 7 -

GROWERS COLD TO SPUD BILL, Mason City, Iowa - The bill proposed by Sen. Brewster of Maine which would set up acreage allotments for commercial potato growers, together with the loan and price support program, aroused little enthusiasm among members of the Iowa State Vegetable Growers association meeting in Mason City Thursday.

The measure was explained by E. J. Taintor, Grand Forks, N. D., as a proposal aimed at preventing overproduction such as occurred this year. Smaller growers spoke against it as furnishing "comfort and protection to exactly those people against whom it should have been aimed."

Large growers would find means of evading its provisions by such expedients as planting rows closer on reduced acreage, one speaker insisted. Large growers also found fault because votes in a referendum to determine whether acreage controls should be imposed would be on basis of one to each grower regardless of acreage.....

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From the Davenport, Iowa Democrat, Dec. 7 -

FOOD PROBLEM, Editorial - It may be that a current book by Ward Shepard entitled "Food or Famine: The Challenge of Erosion" is more useful than many novels--if people will read it. It deals with the most precious material thing in this country which is our soil. Little by little, farmers and others who live largely by the soil are learning to protect their land from erosion by contour and strip farming, protective lakes, planting trees on eroded hillsides, and so on. But in most regions the effort is barely started.....

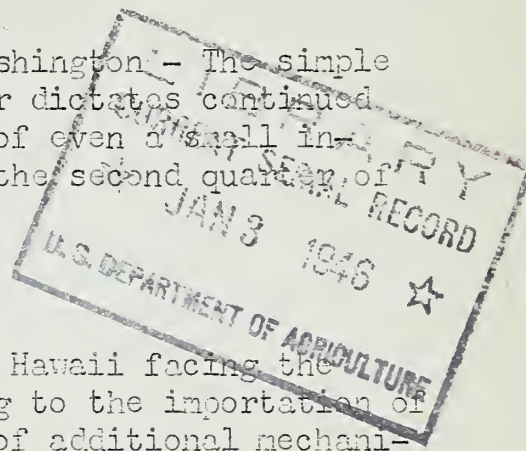
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(The newspapers and magazines which these agricultural items are taken from are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Dec. 17 -

SHORTAGE IN SUGAR DICTATES CONTINUED RATIONING - Washington - The simple arithmetic of supply and demand in a world recently at war dictates continued rationing of sugar well into 1946 and offers little hope of even a small increase in the amount allowed to American consumers until the second quarter of next year.



HAWAII GETS MEN TO INCREASE SUGAR CROP - Honolulu - Hawaii facing the prospect of its smallest sugar crop since 1936, is looking to the importation of 4,000 additional Filipino field workers and the benefits of additional mechanization to bring production back to peacetime levels.

The Territory's sugar production at the year's end will exceed the 830,000 short tons for 1945 by a narrow margin, according to the estimates of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association. This nineteen years' low will be 145,000 tons below the average of 975,000 short tons for the ten pre-war years.

PUERTO RICO SUGAR YIELD PUT BIGGER IN '46 - San Juan - In an optimistic report the office of the Puerto Rican Sugar Producers has forecast that the island's sugar production in 1946 will exceed 1,000,000 tons and may reach the 1941-42 figure of 1,147,589 tons.

The decrease of last year's crop to 965,775 tons was due mainly to the thirty-eight-day strike of field workers which compelled harvesting until August with the yield of sugar lower after the normal end of the season.

CHICAGO SHORT OF BUTTER - Chicago - Inequalities in the ceiling price of butter and cost of cream of which it is made has caused a serious shortage in butter with the possibility that there will be practically none for Christmas dinners this year, Owen M. Richards, manager of the American Dairy Association, says.

Chicago housewives now are able to buy only a half or a quarter of a pound of butter at a time and in other areas farther from production areas shortage is more severe, he states.

34 SENATORS URGE FOOD FOR GERMANS - Washington - Thirty-four Senators appealed to President Truman tonight to carry out immediately a program, including creation of an independent United States relief mission, to relieve "the appalling famine in Germany and Austria."

From the New York Times, Dec. 17 (Cont.) -

TEXTILE SHORTAGES TRACED TO LABOR - Not until the cotton textile industry can attract large numbers "of seriously minded workers" will the extreme shortages of certain types of cotton yarns, fabrics and apparel be overcome, the National Industrial Conference Board reported over the week-end. According to the group the industry's chief bottleneck is lack of unskilled and semi-skilled labor "which is necessary for preparatory stages of mill operations."

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OATS AND RYE STIR SPECULATIVE TREND - Chicago - Speculative interest in the grain markets is confined largely to oats and rye, other grains being at or so close to ceiling price that outside interest is extremely small, and brokers see little prospect of any change in the latter condition during the next month or so unless there is a drastic increase in the receipts of cash wheat and corn at terminal markets.

With trading in December grain contracts ceasing at the close of business Dec. 21, considerable irregularity is anticipated in the markets, but there is little or no wheat, corn or barley available for delivery purposes, and brokers expect the December contracts will hold at ceiling prices where they have been for some time.

Cash wheat is in scant supply at leading markets, and mills are finding it hard to secure sufficient grain to permit capacity operations, although some Government owned grain was purchased last week.

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LARD OUTPUT UP AS HOG RECEIPTS RISE, BUT SUPPLY WILL NOT EXCEED DEMAND - Chicago - Production of lard is increasing as the result of larger receipts of hogs and a little accumulation at leading packing points is reported. However, the stock is still far below normal and reports indicate that, although sales have expanded, there is no indication that the supply will exceed the demand, especially in view of the last report of the Department of Agriculture indicating that the cottonseed crop would be the smallest in over twenty years. This is one of the main edible oils that compete with lard and may have to be substituted for it unless conditions change for the better. Production of soybean oil is also smaller than last year, due to a decrease in the crop.

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COTTON -MILL MEN ASSAYS PACE BILL - Stockholders of the Cherokee Textile Mills, Knoxville, Tenn., have received a letter from M. G. Heinsohn Jr., president, outlining his position regarding an increase in the parity price for cotton. The letter in part follows:

"Now leave us humble citizens believing in God and in the natural laws, consider the proposal to raise parity prices as introduced by Congressman Stephen Pace from the third district of Georgia.

"Parity Pace, the cotton growers' magician, says as how American cotton ain't high enough over the world market and he has a law to boost it higher.

"But somehow we would rather retain our faith in God and in the proven natural laws than to place it with Parity Pace and the New Deal, broken promises and essays to the contrary notwithstanding."

\* \* \*



From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 17 -

CUBA WILL STILL SHIP SUGAR, Havana (AP) - Senator Jose M. Casanova, president of the National Association of Sugar Mill Owners and member of the Cuban Sugar Sale Commission, said Cuba will export sugar to the United States despite suspension of purchase negotiations....

The Cuban commission has rejected a United States offer of 3.675 cents a pound for the 1946 and 1947 crops.

Luis Mendoza, sugar broker and spokesman for the Cuban sugar industry, urged that Cuba officially declare its willingness to ship 85% of its 1946 crop at 3.675 cents a pound despite suspension of negotiations "in order to avert accusations of speculation."

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GRAIN MOVEMENT ON LAKES, Cleveland - The grain movement on the Great Lakes during the 1945 season was the heaviest in history, a report by the Lake Carriers Association disclosed. Up to December 1, the Association reported, 17,840,560 net tons of grain were transported on the lakes in U.S. and Canadian vessels, exceeding last year's total shipments by 1.5 million tons. The total for 1945 will be even greater since grain shipments were continued...beyond December 1....

The heavy movement this year reflected not only a higher domestic demand but a sizable increase in the volume of grain exported to Europe.

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MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY - The meat packing industry used a portion of its relatively good earnings during the war to whittle down funded debt. This elimination of debt and the reduction of fixed charges accompanying it should prove helpful in meeting any contingencies that may arise.

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NATURAL RUBBER will be ample for world demands by the end of 1946, Paul Litchfield, chairman of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., said. He added American industry needed about 25% of natural rubber to meet domestic requirements and that the remaining 75% can be either synthetic or natural rubber, depending on the price.

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LUMBER SUPPLIES will continue to be extremely tight at least until next spring, according to the Lumber Survey Committee which is an adviser to the Commerce Department. The Committee indicated that O.P.A. price policies, shortages of equipment and strikes were holding back lumber output.

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MAYOR LA GUARDIA of New York City, announced the June Dairy Co. of Wisconsin, will sponsor weekly Sunday broadcasts by him on city affairs.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items in today's Wall Street Journal.)

Farm Digest 2305-45-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 17 (Cont.) -

JAPAN WANTS TO EXPORT RAW SILK, Tokyo (AP) - Japan's textile industry hopes to convert all its silk production facilities to manufacturing for export, cutting off domestic supplies of shortcut fibre and amassing 157,000 bales of raw silk for foreign buying by December 1947. -

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FIRST CRUDE RUBBER SHIPMENT FROM JAVA DUE HERE TODAY - A cargo of crude rubber, 8000 tons, from the Straits Settlements in Java, the first since February 25, 1942, is expected today with the docking of the S.S. Canton Victory at Staten Island.

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FEDERAL FARM LOAN BONDS OF \$214 MILLION OFFERED- The 12 Federal land banks are offering publicly today through Charles R. Dunn, their fiscal agent, \$214 million consolidated Federal farm loan bonds dated January 2, 1946 due January 1, 1953, and callable January 1, 1951. The bonds bear interest at 1½% per annum.....

Net proceeds ... together with cash on hand, will be used to retire approximately \$170.8 million of 3% consolidated Federal farm loan bonds of January 1, 1946-56; to retire approximately \$35.9 million of the capital investment of the United States in the Federal land banks and \$15 million of commercial bank borrowings; and to purchase approximately \$5.7 million of mortgages and real estate sales contracts from the Federal Farm Mortgage Corp.

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From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 17 -

VICTORY GARDEN PLAQUE AWARDS - The National Victory Garden Institute yesterday announced it had awarded plaques to eighty-seven companies and organizations for sponsoring outstanding company-employee and community garden programs in 1945. The awards were based on a national survey. Andrew S. Wing, secretary-manager of the institute, said that the nation produced 24,000,000 tons of food from 72,500,000 gardens from 1942 through 1945 and described victory gardening as "perhaps our most vital home-front activity."

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SWIFT PREDICTS INCREASE IN BEEF AND PORK SUPPLY - Swift & Co. in its annual report mailed to stockholders yesterday held out a promise, based on government estimates, for an increased supply of beef and pork for civilians in 1946 compared with 1945. Shorter supplies of veal, lamb and mutton were predicted. Total civilian meat supplies for 1946 are expected to average about 150 pounds per capita, the report pointed out.

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COFFEE SHORTAGE PREDICTED HERE FOR FEBRUARY - A coffee shortage, starting in February because of the refusal of Latin-American producers to ship coffee to the United States at present ceiling prices, was forecast in coffee trade circles here yesterday...

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From The Rural New-Yorker, Dec. 15 -

DEALERS PROPOSE MILK AMENDMENTS - The milk racketeers are losing no time in an attempt to regain some of the special privileges that were temporarily denied to them in the war emergency, and, they are seeking even more than they had before. The new scheme is heavily propagandized as a producer program designed to avert the anticipated price drop when the subsidy payments are discontinued.

Not one of the proposals can possibly benefit producers. They are all designed to put more money in the pockets of the milk dealer monopoly. The proposal of an auction sale is the worst of the lot. It looks like an attempt to legalize the sale of milk to butter and cheese manufacturers at prices below the prices fixed in the Order.

There is nothing in these amendments that will help dairy farmers and there will be nothing of value in any other proposals made by the dealers and their stooges. Until producers can own and operate their own country plants and determine the price and terms of sale of their own milk free from legislative restrictions, the dairy business of this State will continue at the mercy of the big dealer monopoly.

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From The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Dec. 12 -

U. S. ACTS TO SUPPLY JAPAN WITH COTTON - Washington - An Intergovernmental Commission will leave for Japan within the next few days to make final plans for the movement of more than 500,000 bales of American cotton into that country, it was admitted Tuesday night by a State Department official.

The State Department official, who requested that his name not be used, said members of the commission, already have been briefed and will leave just as soon as "one or two" minor problems are worked out. The official said present plans call for an official announcement regarding the commission to be made early next week.

The commission is composed of a State Department representative, a Department of Agriculture representative; two representatives of the cotton industry, one representative of the synthetic industry and one official observer of each of three countries, England, China and India.

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SOME BELIEVE BANKHEAD BILL HAS 'JOKER' CLAUSE - Cotton men--certain of them at least--feel that there is a joker in the Bankhead-Eastland Bill which may nullify its effectiveness. Sponsors of the plan have made the claim that it will make the present export subsidy unnecessary, will end acreage controls and eliminate the loan programs.

Parity price to the farmer would be assured, they claim, by a minimum price clause. This clause would make it unlawful for any dealer to buy any agricultural commodity for less than local parity. They insist that this clause assures producers of parity income and makes unnecessary any form of price adjustment payment.

It is pointed out that such a clause would leave the burden of carrying the cotton in the hands of the farmer until such time as the buyer needed cotton and, if the supply should exceed the demand, would leave him with stocks of unsold cotton.

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From The Northwestern Miller, Dec. 11 -

**STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN BOXCAR SUPPLY SITUATION IN MIDWEST** - Although the supply of boxcars for movement of grain in the Midwest continues tight, considerable improvement in supply has been noted, reports from various terminals indicate.

Officials of the Association of American Railroads reported recently that 30,350 boxcars had been transferred last month from eastern and southern railroads to lines serving the grain belt. The car service division of the AAR said that 13,000 of that total were transferred in the past week, an increase of more than 4,000 over the week previous. Officials said that the gap in the urgent demand for cars was being closed.

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**FARM INCOME SUPPORT - Editorial** - Rigid farm price parity concepts built on the current historical model are rapidly being converted into something that looks remarkably like a system of income support which would permit a freer play of competition in domestic markets at lower prices and in greater volume, at the same time providing easier competition in world markets. Recent utterances of the secretary of agriculture, Mr. Anderson, seem to state the matter in about this sensible and reassuring way. Mr. Anderson wants a kind of streamlined parity quickly responsive to current market relationships and designed to replace "with fairness both to producer and consumer" the present parity mechanism, which he says has become "a patchwork of special provisions that for many commodities have little relationship to reality."

It is an inspiring and admirable outlook that unfolds itself before the official eye of Mr. Anderson--an outlook bright with opportunity for a better nourished nation at ever lower unit costs of production through advancing technology. "This means," he concludes, "that fewer farmers will be able to produce more for our growing population, and they will be able to produce it easier and with less damage to the land."

There never was anything but a statistical surplus of agricultural products in this country, and now Mr. Anderson proposes to abolish even that by the only plausible method short of bureaucratic planned parenthood for pigs and wider spacing of cotton rows.

\* \* \*

From The Des Moines Register, Dec. 12 -

**URGES FARMERS TO BACK LABOR** - Columbus, Ohio - Farmers should support city workers in their fight for better wages, Price Administrator Bowles told the Ohio State Grange Tuesday.

"Farmers have everything to gain in backing city workers in their never-ending fight for better wages, and city workers and businessmen should back to the hilt every piece of legislation which will improve the economic lot of the farmer", the OPA chief said.

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From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 12 -

**TENANT FARMERS' UNION URGES LAND FOR LANDLESS** - Establishment of a new government land policy to "restore the landless to the land" was urged this morning by 300 delegates of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union. "It is reported that 82 million acres of land have been brought into cultivation since 1940", a report by the executive council said. The ownership and control of this land are in the hands of commercial farm interests, the council stated, adding that these holdings should be "broken up" by the government in order to enable the landless farm population to be re-established on farms of their own.

Farm Digest 2305



(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Dec. 18 -

REJECTS OPA DEMAND FOR A CITRUS CEILING - Washington - Stabilization Director John C. Collet today rejected OPA's demand for immediate restoration of price ceilings on fresh citrus fruits.

He warned that "if excessive rises are not promptly curbed or eliminated as a result of ample supplies and voluntary restraint on the part of the industry, this office will act forthwith to reimpose price ceilings."

In a memorandum to OPA Mr. Collet noted that Secretary Anderson had urged that the citrus industry "be given further opportunity voluntarily to bring its prices within proper limits before price control be reinstated."

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SENATE BILL FOR \$1,350,000,000 TO UNRRA SENT TO WHITE HOUSE - Washington - A voice vote of the Senate completed and sent to the White House late today the legislation authorizing the appropriation of a second \$1,350,000,000 contribution to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in 1946.

The action was taken after drastic need for security against any breaking of food, fuel and other supply lines to distressed areas abroad had prompted an advance appropriation of \$750,000,000 to be made available upon the exhaustion of the initial authorization.

- - -

CLOTH THAT WATERPROOFS ITSELF - One wartime development in Britain is a cotton cloth which waterproofs itself. A special twist in the material causes the fibers to expand on contact with water, thus blocking out the interstices and making the fabric waterproof. When dried the cloth returns to its natural form, it is said.

- - -

BUTTER DELIVERIES SUSPENDED IN CITY - With less butter in the city yesterday than at any time since the records have been kept, one of the largest wholesale houses suspended all deliveries to its customers.

The suspension came as black marketing increased throughout the trade, from wholesalers to neighborhood grocery stores, and consumer demand continued to grow because of the approaching holidays.

At the same time, members of the New York Mercantile Exchange petitioned President Truman, the Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture to impose ceiling prices on butterfat or remove ceilings from butter. A similar request was made last week by the Butter and Eggs Merchants Association.

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RAYON 'MAP' ERASED FOR MILL INDUSTRY - Washington - The OPA indicated today that "major" changes would be made soon in the Maximum Average Price order for rayon and other synthetic fabrics in a move "to protect consumers against possible quality deterioration and to encourage an increase in the production and the use of all available fibers."

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's New York Times.)

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Farm Digest 2315-45-1

From The New York Times, Dec. 18 (Cont.)

LAKES GRAIN FLEET SETS A NEW RECORD - Cleveland - A new high record movement of grain by the Great Lakes bulk cargo fleet was set this year, the Lake Carriers Association announced today.

The grain movement amounted to 17,840,560 net tons from April 1 to Dec. 1. With the down-lakes movement still in progress the figure is about 1,333,000 tons greater than the full season's total last year.

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COTTON SELLS OFF AFTER EARLY RISE - After early steadiness yesterday, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange turned easier and closed 13 to 21 points lower on the day.

There was early buying for the trade and also some price-fixing against export sales. France was reported in the market again for high grades and there was interest also from Italy, to which cotton may be shipped without export licenses.

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GRAINS UNSETTLED ON RYE'S DECLINE - Chicago - Grain markets were unsettled today on the Board of Trade with the action of Rye having considerable influence. The latter was off 2-7/8 cents a bushel at one time early on scattered liquidation induced by the announcement made late on Saturday that the Office of Price Administration was standing on a previous statement that rye of all crops could not sell above the ceiling on the 1946 crop, effective on June 1. May went up 3 cents from the low and the finish was at the top with the finish 1/8 cent to 1-1/4 cents higher, December leading. New crop deliveries of rye were off 1/4 to 7/8 cent with July fractionally under the ceiling.

December and May wheat, all deliveries of corn and December barley held at ceiling prices. The active deliveries of wheat finished 1/4 cent lower on scattered commission house selling. Oats were unchanged to 1/4 cent lower and the distant months in barley gained 1/4 to 1/2 cent. Kansas City September wheat lost 1/8 cent.

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OPA DETAILS RULE FOR SHIRT PRICEING - Spurred by consumer demand for low-cost cotton apparel, the Office of Price Administration yesterday began a series of meetings to acquaint manufacturers of men's and boys' shirts, shorts and pajamas with MPR-605, its largest regulation for adjusting prices on the basis of costs.

Whether the regulation will mean an increase in supply of shirts, shorts and pajamas depends on adjustments that OPA must make in its Maximum Average Price regulation, Max J. Lovell, executive secretary of the National Association of Shirt and Pajama Manufacturers, declared after the meeting.

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INDUSTRY DISCOUNTS SHORTAGE OF COFFEE - American coffee interests do not profess to be disturbed by any threatened shortage of coffee in the near future, according to numerous spokesmen for the industry yesterday. They emphasized that approximately 2,000,000 bags have been purchased of the 6,000,000 on which the United States Government has agreed to pay an import subsidy of three cents a pound. Representatives of the industry stress that stocks on hand at the end of October approximated 4,629,000 bags. The latest actual figures released are those of Sept. 30, when the stocks totaled 4,937,000 bags.

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Farm Digest 2315-45-2



From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 18 -

GRAND JURY TEXTILE PROBE DISTURBS PRIMARY MARKET MEN - Primary textile market interests are no little annoyed by the widespread publicity which the general press is giving to the Grand Jury investigation of textile black market activities. The criticism is based on the fact that (1) No distinction is made between various levels of the trade and the assumption created that mills, converters, wholesalers, cutters and retailers are to be probed, and that (2), the inquiry has been misnamed as a black market investigation, since it is in reality a search for ceiling violators.....

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AFL WOOL UNION ACCEPTS 10c RISE, Lawrence, Mass., - Acceptance of an offered 10c-an hour general increase and a 70c an-hour minimum was voted by more than 1,000 members of the Department of Woolen and Worsted Workers, UTW (AFL), at an assembly here. Joseph Sylvia, national director of the union, and the negotiation committees were instructed to notify employers to put the new rates into effect today....

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MARKETS - Poultry supplies decline as storms slow arrivals.... Apples hold firm under light offerings in fresh fruit market. Cold weather slows fresh vegetable trading, with arrivals unusually not clearing...Holiday demand stimulates nut market trading...Rice arrivals reported below trade requirements....Steady demand features rolled oats trade, with export inquiries reported in market...Restricted mill offerings limit flour market activity.

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SEEK WHITE HOUSE AID TO EASE BUTTER SUPPLY - President Truman, Price Administrator Chester Bowles and Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson were asked yesterday by a group of New York butter wholesalers to act to relieve the growing butter shortage.

Charles E. Radar, business manager of the New York Merchantile Exchange, said that he and the group of wholesalers he represented were urging the Government to remove all price controls on butter or place ceiling prices on cream at the farm level....He added that New York city's wholesale and jobbers' butter supply dropped to one-sixth of normal last Saturday.

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LIMITS SALE OF RAT KILLER TO PEST CONTROL EXPERTS, St. Louis, Mo. - Monsanto Chemical Co. today announced it will restrict the sale of "1080" the new rat killer developed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to pest control operators. It will not be sold for use in compounding rat poison for household use....

- - -

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 18 -

CANDY OUTPUT TO FALL UNDER RECORD 1944, Washington - Candy makers have passed their wartime peak and 1945 production will be some 200 million pounds below last year's record high, according to the Commerce Department's annual survey of confectionery sales. Candy production last year hung up a record 2.8 billion pounds, exceeding that of 1943, by a quarter of a billion pounds. This was the greatest gain in any one year with the exception 1941, when there was a relatively unlimited supply of raw materials. This year's output is estimated to average 18.6 pounds is estimated to average 18.6 pounds per capita, with a total wholesale value of \$626 million....

With war's end, smaller government orders cut the amount of sugar and other materials available to candy makers through their quota-exemption privileges. Output also was handicapped in the second half of this year by the acute sugar shortage which gave candy makers the smallest amounts of any time since sugar rationing began in 1942.....

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QUALITY COTTON has almost vanished from U. S. stocks, a British inquiry reveals. Since our Government doesn't have the desired grades... Britain will ask for bids in the open market soon on 90,000 bales of middling and strict middling cotton, 15-16 inch long. Cotton dealers think the British may not find that much.

Despite the huge demand in Britain for cotton clothing, mill men there fear they won't have workers to use more than 1.5 million bales of cotton next year. ....

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CHICKEN RAISERS have been warned they will have to kill and market an extra 67 million birds in the first quarter of 1946 to bring supplies in line with available feed and peacetime demand. Broilers will be affected most. In Richmond, Va., market for the Shenandoah Valley broiler area, prices are down to 19 cents a pound from the 28-cent ceiling.

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CALIFORNIA SUGAR beet growers, who ignored Government pleas to increase their acreage during the war, expect to plant 50% more in 1946 than they did this year. Mechanical harvesters that dig 300 tons of beets a day, and an increase of \$1 a ton in the price of beets at the farm, are arguments that are succeeding where appeals to patriotism failed. Much beet land went into tomatoes for canning during the war, but tomato support prices are going down next year.

- - -

FARM PRICE SUPPORTS may cost taxpayers \$5 billion in 1948 - A commitment to spend this huge sum is about to be accomplished quietly in contrast to all the agitation over the \$4.4 billion loan to Great Britain...

Congress will go home shortly, President Truman will fail to act and, officially, the war will still be going on in 1946. Thus the price commitment will be in effect until December 31, 1948. After World War I farm prices slumped until, in 1921 they were only 56% of what they were in 1919. A similar decline after this war would cut farm income from its present \$20 billion a year to \$11.5 billion, and the Government would be obligated to bring it back up to \$16.5 billion.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 16 -

DYER SAYS RISE IN SUGAR PRICES IS DUE IN 1946 - Higher consumer prices for sugar and continued government controls in 1946 were predicted yesterday by B. W. Dyer, head of B. W. Dyer & Co., sugar economists. Price advances from the current level of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cents to 6 or 7 cents a pound would appear likely in March or April, when rationing levels can be increased because of the new Caribbean crop arrivals, Mr. Dyer said.

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CUBA SPEEDS SUGAR GRINDING - Washington - Cuba has decided to start her 1946 sugar grinding season earlier than usual to help ease the shortage in the United States.

This was revealed tonight by a spokesman for the Cuban Sugar Commission, which is returning to Havana after adjournment of negotiations for the sale of 1946 Cuban sugar crop to the United States.

"Although we have no contract, we want to show how willing we are to co-operate with the United States," a spokesman told the United Press. He said the sugar would be sold to the Commodity Credit Corporation at 3.675 cents a pound, subject to settlement later when a contract is drawn up.

\* \* \*

From The New York Times, Dec. 15 -

HOG PACKERS SEEK SUBSIDY INCREASES - A complete readjustment of livestock subsidies for packers so that they can receive the return contemplated by the Barkley-Bates amendment to the Price Control Act was demanded by the Eastern Meat Packers Association yesterday. The association adopted a resolution declaring that the recent directive issued by Stabilization Administrator John Collet was not inclusive enough and failed to give hog slaughterers the benefits other slaughterers obtain.

Hugo Slotkin, president of the association, emphasized that the members operated primarily as hog slaughterers and that they should be treated more liberally.

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CRISIS IN BUTTER PUT UP TO TRUMAN - Telegrams urging immediate action to head off a national butter famine early next month were sent yesterday by the New York Mercantile Exchange to President Truman and to Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson.

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From The Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 12 -

\$4.31 IS RECORD PRICE FOR MILK - New York - With virtually all of the November milk production going into fluid channels, dairy farmers of the six-state New York milkshed will receive \$4.31 per hundredweight for last month's production--the highest payment ever recorded under federal order operation.

Announcement of the payment was disclosed today by Dr. Charles J. Blanford, federal-state administrator. The price was computed early to permit handlers to pay farmers in time for Christmas spending.

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Farm Digest 2315-45-5

From The New York Times, Dec. 16 -

FIGHT STARTED TO KEEP PLANTS MAKING ALCOHOL FOR RUBBER - Omaha - Midwesterners are rolling up their sleeves to protect agriculture's newly won place in the world rubber picture.

They propose to do it by persuading the Government to maintain, in part at least, its plants which turned wartime farm products into alcohol, then into synthetic rubber. They hope to see the plants become self-supporting as a private industry.

Midwest hopes received a set-back recently when the rubber-producing plants in Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania were put on a "stand-by" basis by the Office of Rubber Reserves. That action forecast a less rosy future also for the Government-built alcohol producing plants in Omaha, Kansas City and Muscatine, Iowa.

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SENATE VOTE SPURS PROGRAM OF UNRRA - Washington - Spurred by a Senate-approved appropriation of \$750,000,000 UNRRA officials prepared detailed plans today for continuing relief supplies to Europe and Asia through 1946.

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COMEBACK FOR SILK IN 1946 IS FORECAST - Silk will play an important role in the textile industry in 1946, it was predicted last week by weavers who plan to import substantial quantities from China, Italy and Brazil for production of fabric exclusively or to supplement rayon cloth production.

The Office of Price Administration willing, silk dress fabric production might easily exceed 50,000,000 yards next year, they said, in addition to an output of underwear and neckwear fabric in an equal amount. Silk upholstery and drapery fabric production next year will be greater than any year since 1937, it was estimated.

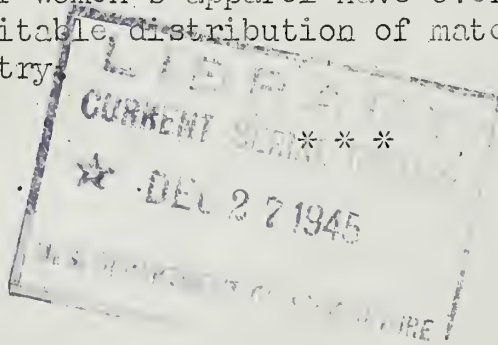
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RUSSIAN FARM HOMES IN MASS PRODUCTION - Mass production of farm homes is to be undertaken by Russia in the areas of that country devastated by the German invaders.

In the architectural offices of the USSR People's Commissariat of Agriculture is a blueprint for a model farmstead. As described by the Russian Information Bureau, it is a one-story house surrounded by a vegetable garden and orchard and with a well, root house, shed, barn, pigsty and poultry-run on the grounds. There are three rooms, totaling forty-two square meters of floor space, a porch, large pantries and a cellar.

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UNIFORM CEILINGS HELD SHORTAGE AID - Chicago - Uniform ceiling prices on rayon and woolen materials were urged over the week-end to end price advantage which manufacturers of women's apparel have over makers of men's clothing and to provide a more equitable distribution of materials between the two branches of the clothing industry.



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Office of Information

Washington 25, D. C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From The New York Times, Dec. 19 -

**ROLE SET FOR FARM IN FULL PRODUCTION** - Chicago - The farmer's part in the drive for high production and full employment is "to get together with industry and labor and talk about national goals, national policies and unified planning toward all-out prosperity," Secretary Anderson told the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual convention today.

Mr. Anderson said the farmer should hold firmly to the parity principle, his first and to date his best measure of the balance of agriculture in the whole economy.

He asserted that farmers should have a fair share of the national income, proportionate to the percentage of the national population on farms, adjusted for the relative costs of producing and living on the farm under modern conditions.

Representative John W. Flannagan Jr. of Virginia attacked the farm subsidy system as "a fallacious policy that will, if not checked, undermine both farmers and consumers and eventually our whole economic system."

- - -

**TRUMAN SIGNS UNRRA BILL** - Washington - President Truman signed today a new \$1,350,000,000 authorization for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. None of the money has been appropriated, but most of it may be included in a deficiency supply bill slated for final Congressional action this week.

The new authorization represents the final half of the \$2,700,000,000 commitment by this country to UNRRA. Half of the total has been appropriated and most of it has been disbursed.

- - -

**MILL CONVERTING HELD SHORTAGE AID** - Washington - The acute shortage of cotton house dresses and other low-cost cotton apparel today was blamed on the practice of gray goods mills becoming their own converters and selling their output only to the "select few."

The charge was made before the Senate Small Business Committee, by Erwin Feldman, director and counsel of the National Association of Dress Manufacturers, who said that the development during the past fifteen months of the "vertical set-up", in which mills do their own conversion, had resulted in faulty and inequitable distribution of a substantial production of cotton goods.

- - -

**ALLOTS GRAIN FOR WHISKY** - Washington - Whisky distillers were allotted sufficient grain by the Department of Agriculture today to operate at ten-day mashing capacity during January. This is the same quantity allotted for December. However, the department stipulated that not more than 6 percent of the grain used during January may be rye, compared with a December rye restriction of 25 percent of the average monthly quantities used by each plant during September and October. The ten days mashing capacity will require about 5,500,000 bushels of grain.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's New York Times.)

Farm Digest 2325-45-1



ICE CREAM FIELD SETS BILLION-GALLON GOAL - The ice cream industry expects to sell a billion gallons of ice cream in 1950, R. C. Hibben of the International Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers, Washington, D. C., predicted yesterday at the closing session of the annual convention of the Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers of New York State. He emphasized that this more than doubled output would be sold through better merchandising, stressing the improved quality of the product. Ice cream output in 1945, Mr. Hibben stated, approximated 450,000,000 gallons.

- - -

CUDAHY PACKING CO. HAS \$2,505,097 NET - The annual report of the Cudahy Packing Co. covering the fiscal year ended on Oct. 27 disclosed yesterday a net income of \$2,505,097 after taxes and all charges, equal to \$4.12 a share of common stock. In the preceding fiscal year the company had a net of \$3,190,061, or \$5.58 a common share.

Net sales aggregated \$344,909,594, compared with \$419,618,928 for the year to Oct. 28, 1944, a decrease of 17.8 per cent. Reduction in both dollar sales value and sales tonnage, E. A. Cudahy, chairman, explained, "is largely attributable to the decrease in the number of hogs available for slaughter." For the same reason, as well as higher livestock prices, the operating profit declined to \$7,921,000 from \$13,132,000 the year before, Mr. Cudahy said.

- - -

COTTON PRICES UP BY 3 TO 13 POINTS - Cotton futures on the New York Cotton Exchange worked higher yesterday and closed steady with net gains of 3 to 13 points. After starting unchanged to 5 points up, the market held steady all day, influenced by commission house and trade buying, while the hedge selling was mostly on the scale up. A spot firm sold about 5,000 bales for March delivery.

- - -

COTTON CONSUMPTION DOWN - Washington - The Bureau of the Census reported today that cotton consumed during November was 743,450 bales of lint and 83,680 bales of linters. This compared with 759,806 bales of lint and 85,464 bales of linters consumed during October of this year, and 836,438 bales of lint and 123,032 bales of linters consumed during November of last year.

Consumption for the four months ending Nov. 30 totaled 2,944,067 bales of lint and 330,838 bales of linters, compared with 3,261,577 and 497,948 for the corresponding period a year ago.

- - -

REACTION SLIGHT TO CROP REPORT - Chicago - The Department of Agriculture's final estimate of the 1945 grain crops, made late today, showed a moderate reduction compared with the preliminary returns, but the decrease was not sufficient to attract much attention, and brokers said it probably would have little effect as a price-making influence tomorrow on the Board of Trade.

The final day for trading in December grain contracts on the board of trade will be Dec. 20, instead of Dec. 21, as originally scheduled. Directors of the Exchange voted today to close the futures market for Dec. 24 instead of at noon on that date, as was announced last week. The cash grain market will be open next Monday as usual.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 19 -

FREIGHT CAR DEMAND CONTINUES HEAVY, Washington - The railroads are continuing to feel the pinch of a shortage of freight carrying equipment. The Association of American Railroads reported no indication of any lessening of shippers' demands. Demand for box, hopper, refrigerator and stock cars is at a high level.

Loading of grain and a heavy movement of food for export have caused localized box car shortages, particularly on western roads. Calls for refrigerator cars continue to increase this month and will remain at an increasingly high level during the next two or three months....

- - -

FLEMING-HALL TOBACCO SECURITIES ARE OFFERED, Chicago - New common and preferred stock financing aggregating \$2,250,000 for the Fleming-Hall Tobacco Co., Inc.,....will be made today.....Proceeds...will be used to purchase additional cigarette making machinery, tobacco inventory and other purposes in the Company's expansion program.....

- - -

RYE MARKETS were strong yesterday. Futures at Winnipeg gained five cents a bushel, the permissible advance for one day's trading. At Chicago December rye rose as much as 4 3/8 cents with most of the buying based on talk of export sales of U. S. rye.....

Light buying in oats was stimulated by the strength in rye. Dealings in wheat were small and there was a lack of offerings in the corn pit. Flour trade quarters reported inquiries from many foreign countries but a lack of offerings restricted transactions. The fact that there is a strong demand for cash wheat and that farmers are not selling was again emphasized yesterday....

- - -

BOSTON WOOL AUCTION ACTIVE, Boston - The offering of 2,147,361 pounds of surplus property Government wool at auction in Boston showed that manufacturers are in need of supplies and willing to pay for wool on the spot even though part of the wool offered be slightly damaged. Prices paid ranged from 5 cents to 10 cents a pound above upset for grease wool and up to 18 cents above upset for scoured wool....

- - -

FROZEN FOOD PROSPECTS - Despite the optimistic long-range picture for the quick frozen foods industry, there are factors which may serve to check increases in production and distribution in the near future, according to a study by Thomas S. Hutchins of the Commerce Department's foodstuffs unit.... Meat and poultry packers have not entered the industry to the extent that fruit and vegetables processors have.

The study predicts that prospective high levels of consumer income over the next few years will mean greater interest in frozen foods.

(Turn to page 4 for other items  
in today's N. Y. Wall Street Journal)

- - -

Farm Digest 2325-45-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 19 (Cont.) -

**KEROSENE SHORTAGE** - The kerosene shortage, which is becoming more acute in the northern areas of the Atlantic seaboard as well as in the northern middle and western states, is causing growing concern to the oil industry....

- - -

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 19 -

**NATIONAL FARM-LABOR-INDUSTRY PARLEY URGED**, Chicago - Secretary of Agriculture Anderson today urged calling of a national farm-labor-industry conference to "talk about national goals and national policies and unified planning toward all-out prosperity."

In an address prepared for the American Farm Bureau Federation's twenty-seventh annual convention, Anderson asserted. "Farmers could walk into a conference now and indicate to industry exactly what they are ready to produce, and, by the same take, about what they would be ready to consume,....

- - -

**FROSTS REPORTED IN CITRUS BELT** - There were reports...yesterday that frost had developed during the past few days in sections of the Florida citrus fruit belt. There were reports that at Miami temperatures Monday were at a low of 42 degrees. The citrus belt is some 150 miles north of that city. Jacksonville reported temperatures at 30 degrees the same day.

- - -

**SEE RAISIN SUPPLY EXHAUSTED SOON** - Dried fruit interests in New York City yesterday gave close attention to the statement of one of the leading operators on the Coast calling attention to the fact that losses to the 1945 raisin crop from rain damage indicated that there will be a complete exhaustion of supplies long before the 1946 harvest. This interest also pointed out that under the Federal drying orders of 1943 and 1944 insufficient raisins were produced to maintain the fruit on grocers' shelves until the 1945 crop became available.

- - -

**ROOTLESS SPINACH CEILINGS ARE SET**- Washington - Shippers' maximum prices for spinach shipped without roots or stem; were established today by the Office of Price Administration. Removing the roots from spinach prior to shipment is a comparatively new practice and only small quantities are available....the roots and dirt make up about one-third by weight of the spinach plant. ....

- - -

**BUTTER SHORTAGE GROWS MORE ACUTE** - More acute supply shortage features the New York butter situation, a tendency which seems certain to become intensified. Production is continuing its week-to-week recent loss of 22 per cent compared with the same time last year, and Government stockpile butter has been withdrawn from further resale. Probably 75 to 85 per cent of our retail stores are running out of goods....Entire position viewed with grave concern in industry circles. Prompt remedial action by Government officials is urgently needed in the form of a better equalization of butterfat prices going in various channels.

- - -



From The Baltimore Sun, Dec. 18 -

AGRICULTURE POLICY GROUP NAMED BY SPA - Washington - The Surplus Property Administration today announced the appointment of an agriculture policy committee.

Members of the new committee are: Albert S. Goss, master of the National Grange; Edward O'Neal, president of the Farm Bureau Federation; James Patton, president of the National Farmers' Union; Homer Brinkley, president of the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives.

The committee will meet periodically with members of SPA to discuss disposal of surplus property in relation to agriculture.

\* \* \*

From The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 18 -

WILSON & CO., INC., - Wilson & Co., is reducing the dividend requirements ahead of the common stock by the retirement of its outstanding \$6 cumulative preferred shares under an exchange offer. The firm is the third largest meat packer in this country. Meat products represent around 80% of gross sales and are marketed fresh, cured, smoked and in cans. In the fiscal year ended October 27, 1945, foreign operations netted Wilson approximately \$1.5 million. Net profit for the company as a whole in this period amounted to slightly more than \$5 million.

- - -

SWIFT & CO. - Diversity of products and the lack of physical reconversion problems are cited by followers of meat packing shares as favorable to the outlook for Swift & Co.. Satisfactory sales are anticipated over the next two or three years. Removal of price controls on meats and meat products, when it comes, will improve the industry's operating position and permit somewhat wider profit margins.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner & Beane, analyzing Swift's position and outlook, says that "about \$44 million of Swift's pre-tax profit of roundly \$60 million was subjected to excess profits taxes."

\* \* \*

From The Davenport Democrat and Leader, Dec. 16 -

EVEN MARKETING CAN STEADY PRICE OF HOGS - Ames, Iowa - Even marketing of hogs now and for the next two months is important for both farmer and packer.

That's the conclusion of R. C. Bentley, Iowa State College marketing specialist. He points as evidence the detrimental effects of too-heavy hog marketings the first week of this month.

Prices dropped as much as 65 cents a hundred on some markets the first week in December as hog runs piled up.

- - -

OUT-OF STATE DEMAND FOR IOWA CORN SHOWS INCREASE; OPA FEARS BLACK MARKETS - Des Moines - The state office of the OPA Saturday reported an increasing demand for Iowa corn from interests outside of the state--some of which are offering to pay prices in excess of the present ceilings. "The OPA enforcement staff is becoming alert to the threat of a black market in corn," Walter D. Kline, state director, declared. OPA reported that most of the offers to purchase corn from the nation's number one corn-producing state came from eastern concerns, a majority of them feed manufacturers.

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From The New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 18 -

BELL AND R.E.A. TRY METHOD TO GIVE FARMERS SERVICE - Jonesboro, Ark. - The Bell Telephone System and the Federal Rural Electrification Administration put into operation in this area today an experiment to test whether it would be feasible to supply a farmer with telephone calls over the power line that gives his electric lights. R. E. A. Administrator Claude R. Wickard in Washington issued a statement saying he hoped that the method--which involves hitch-hiking telephone calls--would give new service to farm families which now have no telephones.

The engineers explained that they have not developed a system that is practical in every respect.

- - -

GARRISON NAMED MASTER FOR SOUTHERN RATE SUIT - Washington - The Supreme Court appointed Lloyd K. Garrison, chairman of the War Labor Board, as special master in Georgia's suit charging twenty railroads with a conspiracy to fix Southern freight rates.

\* \* \*

From The Kansas City Star, Dec. 15 -

AN AMPLE BEEF SUPPLY - San Francisco - The American beef supply now is large enough to prevent price inflation if both subsidies and price control were removed, F. E. Mollin, Denver, secretary of the National Livestock association, said today.

But he told the twenty-ninth annual convention of the California Cattlemen's association, the problem of getting the livestock industry from under subsidies and price controls, nevertheless remains the foremost problem facing the industry today.

- - -

A MARKET QUOTA PLAN - Emporia - The Kansas State Grange ended its convention today after adopting a resolution favoring use of marketing quotas to prevent market gluts, if such action is approved by two-thirds of the growers in a referendum.

It also proposed creation of a surplus commodity commission by Congress for emergency action in meeting "occasional surpluses inevitable in an economy of balanced abundance."

The Grange maintained its stand against farm subsidies, adopting a resolution stating the "farmers' equitable share of national income must be secured through modernized parity and obtained through fair market prices."

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From The Denver Post, Dec. 15 -

EDITORIAL - Negotiations for American purchase of the 1946 Cuban sugar crop are reported deadlocked. The United States offered to increase the price but the Cubans are holding out for concessions to give them long-time security for their sugar production. Right now, they have us over a barrel.

The Cuban holdup which followed World War I should have taught the United States a lesson. It showed the danger of depending upon any foreign source for such a vital food as sugar. If this country learns anything from being stung twice in the same way, it will encourage the maximum expansion of American beet and cane sugar production and make itself as nearly self-sufficient as possible so far as sugar is concerned.

\* \* \*

Farm Digest 2325-45-6



14  
D14 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 20 -

**CEILING PRICE CUT ON HEAVY TURKEYS**--Coming in time to affect the cost of the Christmas dinner, reductions in ceiling prices were announced yesterday by the Office of Price Administration on dressed heavy turkeys, frying and broiling chickens, light fowl, apples, green peas and loose carrots.

The cut of 4 cents a pound in the ceiling price of heavy turkeys will provide no saving, though, for the housewife whose oven or family needs run below a twenty pound bird. Ceiling prices on dressed lighter birds and on live turkeys, whether light or heavy, are unchanged. The OPA, at the same time, is increasing ceiling prices on sweet potatoes, spinach and snap beans.

The new price list sets the ceiling on dressed turkeys of more than twenty pounds at 50 cents a pound. The reduction from 54 cents a pound was ordered because of an abundance of heavy birds.

- - - -

**RICE 'RESTITUTION' CRUX OF SIAM CASE**--The British Government has demanded that Siam supply between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 tons of rice to other countries in Southeast Asia as "restitution" for the part she played in the war, it was learned today.

News of the quantity of rice asked by the British for distribution to the people of Malaya and Burma and other Southeast Asia areas normally dependent on Siam for this vital foodstuff was disclosed shortly after Dean Acheson, Acting Secretary of State, announced formally that this Government had intervened again in the Siamese negotiations.

- - - -

**TOKYO FOOD CRISIS FORCES NEW CURB**--While Japanese officials continued to emphasize the growing gravity of the impending food crisis, occupation authorities moved tonight to forbid Americans to eat Japanese food. All eating places serving food from Japanese sources were placed off limits, and messes or clubs for Allied personnel were barred from buying food from Japanese "to prevent possible civil unrest and undue interference with the occupation mission."

Clubs and messes were ordered to obtain food only from Allied military supply sources.

The order coincided with Agriculture Ministry figures showing the Dec. 10 collection of rice from farmers was only 11 per cent of the total assessment, against 23½ per cent on Dec. 10, 1944.

- - - -

**AWVS OPENS DRIVE FOR CANNED FOOD**--The American Women's Voluntary Services has adopted the Victory Collection of Canned Food for overseas relief as part of its post-war program here and already has set up fifty-seven collection depots throughout the city, Dan A. West, executive director of the nation-wide drive, announced yesterday.

(Turn to page 2 for other items - - - -  
in today's New York Times.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 20 (Cont.) -

TRUMAN LISTS SELF AS FARMER--President Truman's application for the No. 1 1946 automobile license in his home State lists "farmer" as his occupation.

- - - -

CPA WOULD HOLD WOOLENS CONTROLS--The government must continue its program for the direction of wool fabrics to manufacturers of men's clothing if returning veterans are to be adequately clothed, John D. Small, Civilian Production Administration stated today.

Mr. Small told a meeting of the fabric segment of the woolen and worsted manufacturers industry advisory committee that "the only means of insuring adequate production of low-cost garments was by aiding manufacturers to obtain the necessary fabrics."

- - - -

\$750,000,000 FUND VOTED FOR UNRRA--Congress gave final approval today of the appropriation of \$750,000,000 as a first installment of this country's second-year contribution to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration but tied it up in a general deficiency appropriation bill which is still in dispute between the Houses.

Herbert H. Lehman, director general of the UNRRA, gave seven reasons why his agency must have at least this much of the second year American contribution before Congress begins its holiday recess.

- - - -

SUGAR GRIND ADVANCED--Cuba's 1946 sugar grinding season will start on Jan. 2 the Cabinet resolved this afternoon. All mills must start operations prior to Feb. 15.

Although no agreement has yet been reached on the sale of the 1946 crop to the United States, producers have announced that sugar will be delivered to the United States on a provisional basis pending a final sales contract in order to supply the needs of the American people.

- - - -

RYE CLOSES LOWER AFTER ERRATIC DAY--Rye showed a strong undertone at the start of trading today on the Board of Trade with December advancing  $3 \frac{1}{8}$  cents a bushel to a new high since early in the month on short covering to even up open contracts, but later there was liquidation by longs and the price declined  $\frac{1}{4}$  cents from the top with a partial recovery later, the finish being at net losses of  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  cent. At one time December was 17 cents over May.

Tomorrow will be the last day for trading in December grain contracts and considerable irregularity is expected in rye and oats, but wheat, corn and barley are expected to hold at ceiling prices.

Wheat and corn futures finished unchanged, and oats were  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent off to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent up. Barley was unchanged to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent down.

There was nothing in the news to account for the erratic actions of the rye market.

Cash grain brokers expressed disbelief generally that the 1945 corn crop exceeded 3,000,000,000 bushels as estimated yesterday by the Department of Agriculture, and look for an actual scarcity of the grain to develop before spring.

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COTTON FUTURES MOVE NARROWLY--After holding in a comparatively narrow range, the cotton futures market on the New York Cotton Exchange closed yesterday 1 point higher to 7 points lower than on Tuesday.

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From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 20 -

LUMBER OUTPUT IN 1945 LOWEST IN 7 YEARS, Washington - The nation's lumber production this year skidded to 28 billion board feet or less, the lowest mark in seven years, the Commerce Department estimated. This compares with an output of 32.6 billion board feet in 1944.

A critical shortage of lumber is impending...the Department's lumber unit warned in its December report. Output fell during both the third and fourth quarters of this year.....

- - -

SHORTAGES OF MEN PREVENT 66 SHIP SAILINGS - The War Shipping Administration disclosed that 66 ships, including 19 troop carriers, are being held in Atlantic Coast ports by the merchant marine's severest manpower shortage.....

- - -

BORDEN'S NET INCOME FOR YEAR ESTIMATED 10% ABOVE 1944 - Preliminary estimates of the Borden Co.'s earnings for 1945 point to a 10% increase over 1944, according to Theodore G. Montague, president. He estimates net income of the company and its domestic and Canadian subsidiaries will be somewhat above \$2.75 a share. In 1944, the company earned \$2.35 a share, after reserves of \$2.5 million for special contingencies. This reserve is now considered ample.....

- - -

INCREASE IN PRICE OF KEROSENE, Washington - The O.P.A. yesterday granted temporary increases in the price ceilings for kerosene and heating oils sold in the East coast and Gulf coast districts.....

- - -

CUBA WANTS ASSURANCES BEFORE RESUMING SUGAR NEGOTIATIONS, Havana - Members of the Cuban Sugar Commission are unwilling to resume negotiations in Washington until the United States's State Department gives assurances of its determination to do its best to obtain guarantees for the future of the Cuban sugar industry.

This was brought out at a general meeting of the Cuban Mill Owners Association.....

A special meeting of the mill owners will be held December 28, to decide whether to ask President San Grau Martin to order grinding operations to start January 2 in order to help relieve the sugar shortage in the United States.....

- - -

CCCOA SITUATION - Arrival of 46,500 bags of cocoa from Brazil was reported yesterday, leaving only 3,000 bags still to arrive against previous purchases. Brazil has made no new offerings pending its effort to secure a higher price in the U. S. market. A similar overture by the trade was turned down by Price Stabilizer Collet. Cocoa arrivals so far this month amount to only 108,194 bags, compared with 728,328 bags in the same period a year ago.

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(Turn to page 4 for other items  
in today's N.Y. Wall Street Journal)

Farm Digest 2335-45-3

From the New York Wall Street Journal, Dec. 20 (Cont) -

REFINED COTTON SEED OIL USE DROPS - Consumption of refined cotton seed oil in November totaled 193,278 barrels of 400 pounds each against 209,560 in October and 268,420 in November a year ago. The 10-year average use for November was 283,420 barrels.

- - -

ACTION ON PARITY BILLS POSTPONED, Washington - The coming recess of Congress means that no action will be taken at this session of parity bills pending in the House and Senate, Senator Thomas (D., Okla.) said yesterday. He also added that Solicitor Shields of the Agriculture Department has held that the O.P.A. order fixing a ceiling of \$1.44½ per bushel on all rye of whatever year, is legal and valid.

- - -

AMERICAN SUGAR REFINING CO. declared a year-end dividend of \$2 on the common payable February 2 to stock of record January 7. The previous payment was \$3 on February last.

- - -

ARMOUR & CO. DEBENTURES ABOVE CALL - Armour & Co. debenture 4½s of 1975 are characterized.....as attractive from the standpoint of yield, assuming that the management takes no steps....to replace them with new lower-cost obligations. The debentures are selling at 106½, or nearly two points above the price at which they may be called for redemption....

- - -

From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 20 -

SENATORS DENY LIVING COST IS UP ONLY 33 P.C., Washington - Senators Homer E. Capehart, of Indiana, and Kenneth S. Wherry, of Nebraska, both Republicans, Challenged today Labor Department figures showing the cost of living is only 33 per cent above normal. They said the figure was too low because it ignored the "hidden prices" of goods.

Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach, in a statement warning against removal of price and rent controls, had told the Senate Small Business Committee that "every-day goods" that consumers need now cost only 33 per cent more than normal....

Meanwhile the House Republican food-study committee charged that the Office of Price Administration is using the "most shameless" propaganda to seek permanent price control. Representative Thomas J. Jenkins, Republican, of Ohio, chairman of the group, accused Chester Bowles, price chief, of "intentionally making misleading" statements designed to perpetuate O.P.A. He pointed out that price controls were removed from potatoes months ago and that potato prices are "lower than they were a year ago, when price ceilings were in effect."....

- - -



From The New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 19 -

SENATE GROUP TO STUDY MEN'S CLOTHING SHORTAGE - Washington - The Senate Small Business Committee will discuss the men's clothing shortage with government and clothing industry officials tomorrow and Thursday..

Chairman James E. Murray, Democrat, of Montana, estimated that between 20,000,000 and 28,000,000 suits of clothes will be produced next year, against a demand for 40,000,000 to 48,000,000. He questioned whether returning soldiers would be able to obtain either the business suits or work clothing they must have to resume civilian life.

- - -

NOVEMBER RETAIL PRICES UP 0.1% OVER YEAR AGO - There were no changes in retail prices during November, as compared with October, according to the retail price index of Fairchild Publications issued yesterday. Prices were up but 0.1 percent over a year ago. The index, however, shows prices up 27.7 percent, compared with the 1939-40 low point.. Prices, as compared with the depression low on May 1, 1933, show a rise of 63.5 percent..

- - -

NEW FOOD CONTAINER EVOLVED - A new lightweight container provided with an efficient insulator, will make it possible to ship foods cross-country on the slowest freight train without any refrigeration, it is believed.

\* \* \*

From The Times-Picayune, Dec. 14 -

GROCERS ASK PROBE ON STORED SUGAR - An investigation by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton Anderson to determine whether sugar "bulging the warehouses" in New Orleans and elsewhere is being held for price manipulation was proposed Thursday at a meeting of the Retail Grocers' Association in the Association of Commerce bldg.,

Clyde G. de la Houssaye, attorney for the association, said he would tell a meeting of the government's food advisory committee that he considers the sugar supply is being used as one of the stock market prizes. He said that the committee should demand of Secretary Anderson why such large quantities of sugar are stored and what is to become of the stock.

\* \* \*

From The American Farm Bureau Federation Official News Letter, Dec. 12 -

CALL FOR REMOVAL OF DAIRY SUBSIDY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - Dairy subsidies should be removed as soon as possible, the AFBF-NBC "America United" radio audience was told Sunday, Dec. 2. The program originated from station KSTP, St. Paul, Minn.

Governor Edward J. Thye of Minnesota said there is "no excuse whatever" for continuing the dairy payments at a time when consumers are better able to pay the full cost of what they eat and drink now than they ever have been in the past.

\* \* \*

From The Chicago Journal of Commerce, Dec. 17 -

**BIG HOG RUNS ARE FORECAST FOR JANUARY** - In the opinion of the trade there will be no marked increase in the movement of hogs in the remainder of the month, but information available locally, official reports, and all reports from the country indicate relatively big runs in sight for January.

Packing plants will operate on abbreviated schedules, and many farmers can be expected to delay shipments until after Jan. 1

- - -

**FARMERS SHY AT CASH; TURN TO BARTERING** - Farmers as well as dealers in many agricultural products are shying away from dollars as a medium of exchange and reverting to the primitive method of barter in order to get needed supplies for their operations, according to trade reports.

From an increasing number of sections of the Middle West, it is reported that the greeting expression of tradesmen is, "What have you got to swap," and "How much of it will you give in exchange for what I have."

Anything scarce, therefore difficult to obtain, is rated as swapping material, and list ranges from grains of all kinds to building materials, including scrap metal, and even butter.

\* \* \*

From The Des Moines Register, Dec. 15 -

**IOWA'S FARM LEADERS ASK SEED SUPPORT** - Iowa agricultural leaders Friday requested congress to make the necessary appropriation to continue wartime incentive payments to encourage harvest of legume seeds which are still in short supply. The group stressed the importance of continuing special payments for harvest of alfalfa and red and alsike clover seed.

\* \* \*

From The Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 14 -

**INSECT PEST PERILS ADIRONDACK WOODS** - Manakana, Spruce budworm ravages have been found in "serious proportions" in parts of the Adirondack forests, and three government agencies are now at work to control the pest, J. F. Dubuar, director of the New York State Ranger school, said today.

The state conservation department, the United States Forest Survey and the Federal Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine have concerned themselves with elimination of the insect, which, unchecked, could conceivably lead to near extinction of the northern New York woodlands.

- - -

**FARM RESEARCH PROGRAM URGED BY GRANGE** - Rochester - The New York State grange prepared to conclude its convention here today after calling for government-sponsored scientific farm research in resolutions approved by the approximately 1,000 delegates.

The agriculturalists asked for continued investigation into plant and animal disease control and increased government aid for food products research. Opposed, however, was establishment of a national research agency which, it was said, would deprive state colleges of research and extension funds.

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D14 (No New York or other out of town papers arrived today.)

2 (The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the Washington Post, Washington, Dec. 21 -

RATIONING OF TIRES ENDS JANUARY 1--Tire rationing will end at 12:01a.m. on January 1, Price Administrator Chester Bowles announced last night. He said the rationing program could be terminated then "because production of tires, particularly passenger tires, the shortage of which has been most acute, has increased steadily during the past two months, reaching an output for this quarter of about 11 million."

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FARM BUREAU OPPOSES ARMY'S MILITARY TRAINING PLAN--The American Farm Bureau Federation by resolution today opposed compulsory military training on the ground that it "is foreign to the American way of life" and that it "leads to regimentation, militaristic point of view and future wars." Delegates recommended an expanded program of physical training...military training in...universities and colleges and additional inducements to encourage voluntary enlistments.

Edward A. O'Neal of Florence, Ala., was reelected today to his eighth consecutive term as president of the federation.

By adopting a long list of other resolutions the delegates; Supported the United Nations organization, Bretton Woods monetary agreements, international food and agriculture organization. Recommended study of the maintenance of an international organization "for the effective enforcement of peace." Recommended study of the advisability of an international police force. Favored long-term capital loan to other nations to increase productive and consumptive capacities by private capital with the Government supplementing only when private capital is not available.

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OLD MAN INFLATION. (Editorial)--The rush of buyers that has cleared poor merchandise from the shelves of the department stores gives added weight to Mr. Bowles' impressive warnings against premature abandonment of price controls. As he says, "Should people, whether consumers or businessmen, once lose confidence that the price line will be held and rush to meet future needs ahead of anticipated price increases, these vast wartime savings could throw the Nation into a wild inflationary scramble, exceeding any it has ever experienced." Only a fool or a wrecker could not be forewarned by the Christmas spectacle.

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RETURNING REA STAFF SINGING 'HOUSING BLUES'--The Rural Electrification Administration, one of the first war-transferred Government agencies to be brought back to Washington since the war's end, is having housing difficulties. Plenty of office space has been made available in the Department of Agriculture's south building, 14th and Independence ave, sw., but the staff needs living quarters.

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RUSSIA NEEDS CHESTER BOWLES (by Drew Pearson)--If you think Chester Bowles has made mistakes in protecting the United States consumer, look at what's happened in Russia, supposed to be the haven of the common man. Then be glad either that we have Chester Bowles or that we're not in Russia--or both. However, the fact is that the Soviet is having an even tougher inflation battle than the USA.

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From the Washington Times Herald, Dec. 21 -

CANNED CITRUS CEILING LIFTED - Price control on canned and other processed citrus products of the 1945-46 crop will be suspended December 24 for an indefinite period, the OPA announced yesterday.

It said it does not expect average prices of processed citrus to rise, but that it will recommend ceilings be restored if juices increase above present ceilings.

Items covered are all fresh, canned and frozen citrus juice except canned lime juice; whole or broken citrus segments; citrus pulp; citrus molasses; citrus marmalade base; citrus flavoring base concentrate; citrus flavored beverage syrup; crushed citrus fruit, and shredded, minced, sliced or diced citrus fruit or peel.

- - -

From the Chicago Journal of Commerce, Dec. 19 -

BETTER THAN BUTTER? - That butter shortage which was forecast to arrive by Feb. 1 now appears to be more imminent. There is less time than the public had supposed to make the decision between keeping price controls or removing them and making more butter available.....

There is some disagreement among butter authorities as to the nearness of an acute shortage. The American Dairy Association expects the shrinkage to be felt at Christmas dinner tables. The New York Merchantile Exchange, which is a large handler of butter and eggs, is predicting a butter "famine" early in January. Others in the trade agree that the situation is becoming increasingly tight but consider "famine" to harsh a word just now.....

- - -

From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 20 -

RETENTION OF MILK SUBSIDY IS URGED, Chicago - The opinion that "the milk subsidy will have to be continued until labor and industrial management settle their differences and get down to business and turn out the goods so that consumer income may support a high enough price for fluid milk to make possible abolition of the subsidy" was expressed today by a spokesman for the 76,000-member New York State Farm Bureau Federation.

Don J. Wickham, Hector, N. Y. vice president, stated this view in a summary of New York farm problems at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting here.

"We still oppose the subsidy in principle," Wickham said. "However, if the subsidy is now abolished and if price control continues to prevent a fair market price to the producer to replace the subsidy payment, the New York farmers will be severely injured. The cost of making milk is now the highest in the history of the State."

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From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Dec. 15 -

WORST BUTTER SHORTAGE FEARED - The butter shortage now has become nationwide and threatens to become the worst in the experience of the dairy industry, Minnesota dairymen, revealed Friday night.

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From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 20 -

**MEAT PACKERS CRITICIZE COLLETT**, Chicago - The American Meat Institute today described as "not fair" a statement by the economic stabilizer, John C. Collett regarding profits of the meat-packing industry.

Collett told the Senate Small Business Committee yesterday the meat-packing industry as a whole made greater profits during the last fiscal year than in the prewar years of 1946-1939.

The institute said in a statement the 1936-1939 period "is not a fair or representative period upon which to make any comparison of meat packers' profits.

In 1938, the institute continued, "severe losses" were suffered by the industry and, in other years of the period, earnings "were abnormally low because of droughts which cut down volume."....

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**MEN'S APPAREL COSTS LOWERED** - Costs of men's and boys' shirts, pajamas, and shorts will be rolled back an average of approximately five per cent under a new Office of Price Administration order which becomes effective at the manufacturers level on January 1, the State office of the OPA said yesterday....

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From the Times-Picayune, Dec. 15 -

**PRIORITIES FOR VETS ON FARM LAND URGED**, Washington - The House agriculture committee has been asked to give war veterans and present occupants first chance to purchase 659,000 acres of government-owned farm and grazing land.

Representative Hays, Democrat, Arkansas, told the group that the land is in rural rehabilitation tracts, which Congress has instructed the agriculture department to sell without delay to the highest bidders....

- - -

**LUMBER PROBLEM HAS OPA BAFFLED**, Washington - The OPA said Wednesday it is baffled by a distribution problem in lumber resulting from price control and a short supply.

The problem: To keep wholesalers and commission men in business so that in turn can get lumber for small retail yards. The OPA would prefer to do it without raising ceiling prices; industry representatives said it couldn't be done that way.

The Senate small business committee heard about it as Deputy OPA Administrator Jerome M. Ney and spokesmen for the middlemen and many small retail yards argued the merits of several proposals being considered by OPA, including that of raising ceilings in certain cases....

- - -

**FARM EQUIPMENT SALES ARE PROBED** - Because of the scarcity of farm equipment special investigations concerning over-ceiling sales of this equipment are now being made by the OPA's price enforcement division, C. O. Marionneaux, New Orleans district price executive, said Thursday. He urged the public to report any over-ceiling sales to their local war price and rationing boards.

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From the Watertown Daily Times, Dec. 14 -

LIFTING OF MILK ACTIONS URGED - (New York) Lifting of the suspension from the New York milk pool of 23 receiving plants in New York and Pennsylvania was recommended today by Dr. C. J. Blanford, administrator of the New York metropolitan milk marketing area, when plant reports revealed that they had supplied the market in November in accordance with the marketing regulations. The suspensions, variously effective in November, were ordered for failure to supply the market in a prior period.

- - -

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 16 -

AGRICULTURE IN AN EXPANDING ECONOMY - In a period of social turmoil it rarely is possible to bring apparently conflicting interests to seek out their points of agreement and emphasize these instead of their differences.

That is what is so remarkable about a new research report, "Agriculture in an Expanding Economy," issued by a business group, the Committee for Economic Development. Here is reassurance for the farmer, that enlightened business men realize that cheap raw materials are not an assurance of prosperity in the cities. And here is to be found also the warning that if city workers take home a thin pay envelope farmers cannot prosper.

- - -

From the Chicago Journal of Commerce, Dec. 19 -

EGG INDUSTRY TOLD TO GUARD AGAINST SURPLUS IN 1946 - The egg industry "must be among the first to reconvert" to a peacetime level of production, which means a 15 percent cut back in 1946, Hobart Creighton, head of the poultry branch of the Production and Marketing Administration, Department of Agriculture, told the National Farm Bureau Federation at the opening of its annual convention at the Sherman Hotel.

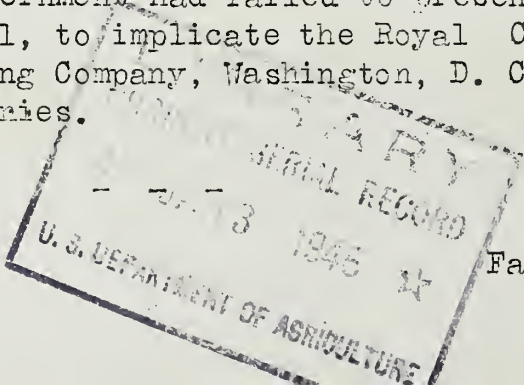
Declaring that the United States in 1946 could use about 340 eggs per capita for all purposes, including military and export, against a 1945 production of 390 eggs per capita, Mr. Creighton said that "without reduction to this proposed level, the surplus could be unmanageable."

The much discussed support program still unannounced by the Department of Agriculture will go into effect "at the first sign of a surplus condition in the market which threatens to force producer prices below the support level," he said.

\* \* \*

COURT TO DIRECT ACQUITTAL OF 3 IN SUGAR TRIAL (Newark, N.J. AP) - Judge Thomas F. Meaney directed a federal court jury to acquit two firms and one individual on trial on an indictment charging conspiracy to illegally divert 25,000,000 pounds of sugar.

Judge Meaney said the government had failed to present sufficient evidence at the trial, which opened Dec. 11, to implicate the Royal Crown Bottling Company, Baltimore; the Royal Crown Bottling Company, Washington, D. C., and William C. Franklyn, president of both companies.

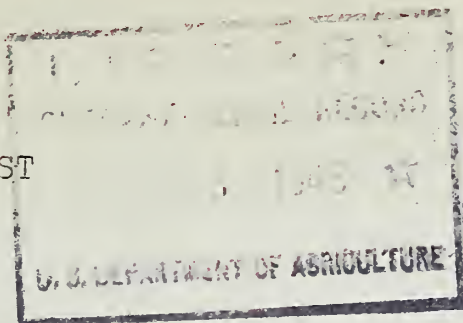


Farm Digest 2345-45-4



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DAILY FARM NEWS DIGEST  
(December 26, 1945)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
Washington 25, D. C.

(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 25 -

**CRUDE RUBBER TO BE APPORTIONED ON WORLD BASIS** - An estimated 275,000 to 350,000 tons of rubber that are expected to arrive in the United States during the coming year from per-war sources in the Far East, as well as all other raw materials listed as "critical," will be apportioned on an international basis according to need, it was learned yesterday.....

According to an RFC spokesman and a representative of the rubber industry, these shipments of crude rubber will be divided by a raw materials board. The United States, Great Britain, Russia, France, China and the Netherlands were said to be the principal nations involved.....

- - -

**FARM IS GIVEN BLINDED SOLDIER**, Batavia, N. Y. - Pfc. Charles F. Bishop, 22, who was blinded by a Japanese sniper received \$10,038.91 today to buy a chicken farm as a Christmas present from residents of Genesee County.....

- - -

**'VANISHING' MEAT IS INVESTIGATED** - An investigation into the "disappearance" of several million pounds of choice meat from the legitimate trade has been started by the Office of Price Administration, it was disclosed yesterday.....

Federal agents have begun an examination of the sales reports of the 107 hotel supply houses in the New York metropolitan area, to find out who has been getting the meat and at what prices.....

- - -

**CANDY TO BE LESS THAN DEMAND IN '46** - Chicago - Because ingredients are scarce sufficient candy to satisfy public demand cannot be produced for at least the first nine months of 1946. Philip P. Gott, president of the National Confectioners' Association, said today. Public demand would be 700,000,-000 pounds above production, he predicted.

Mr. Gott asserted that the cost of ingredients was likely to go up rather than down next year. Production in 1945 of many of the seventy-seven agricultural products used in candy exceeded all records, but no surpluses with their possibility of lowered prices have appeared. The declared program of the Department of Agriculture to eliminate subsidies also would send the prices of ingredients higher, he said.....

- - -

From the National Union Farmer, Denver, Dec. 15 -

"ATOM DUST" MAY KILL PESTS WHICH HAVE BAFFLED FARM SCIENTISTS - "Atom dust" may finally give farmers the answer to how to destroy corn borers, boll weevil, chinch bugs, wireworms, grubs and other hibernating pests which have largely baffled scientists in the past.

Atom scientists gathered at the University of Denver last week heard that dust, irradiated with shortlived rays, might be sowed in fields in the winter, killing the pests which hibernate, but losing its radiance before earth worms come back up above the freeze line and the ground thaws in the spring....

- - -

From the New Orleans, Times Picayune, Dec. 18 -

COTTON ECONOMY HELD IMPORTANT - State College, Miss. - More than 400 agricultural extension and experiment station workers here today heard state and national leaders highlight the farm outlook for next year, with particular emphasis placed on the cotton economy of Mississippi and the South.

Dr. Fred T. Mitchell, president of Mississippi State college, expressed the opinion that perhaps all graduating students from State college should have some courses in agricultural extension regardless of their future vocation because "they will be affected either directly or indirectly by extension work."

"We should emphasize a more intergrated program on cotton economy because it touches all of us, and we have not begun to completely solve this problem."

- - -

From the Maryland Farmer, Dec. -

ADJUST PRICES WHEN SUBSIDIES END - When subsidies are wiped out, what then? Will consumers feel that they should pay higher prices for milk now that the war is over? Actually farmers have a right to expect an adequate return from the sale of the product to cover costs plus reasonable profits. That is the American system under which business should be transacted.

All dairy farmers in the Baltimore milk shed should be fully aware of this problem. Their Cooperative Association realizes that a readjustment in price levels will be necessary. If a fair price is to be gotten all the bargaining power in the possession of every farmer will be necessary to avert disaster. Only if dairy farmers work together and sell their milk together cooperatively can this objective be attained. Competition among farmers must be avoided. Cooperative organizations must be made stronger. Only by the support of individual farmers can this be accomplished. It would be well for Cooperative member-producers to see that all their neighbors, especially the independent producers, are fully advised regarding this problem.

- - -

From the Memphis Commercial Appeal, Dec. 19 -

The snow this week just about finished the cotton harvest for the Northern Belt, as far as many small farmers are concerned. Even before the snow, the mules and other livestock was being turned into the half-picked cotton patches in increasing numbers. Abandonment of hope of harvest will increase rapidly from this point on.....

- - -



From The New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 25 -

EASING OF RULES ON TIN FOR FOOD PACKING SEEN: Liberalization of the tin restriction order which will permit a much greater use of tin in packing of food is expected to be announced from Washington shortly, according to reports current in the food industry. The Civilian Production Administration and the Department of Agriculture are said to be nearing agreement on amending the restriction order M-31.

The new amendment, according to reports, probably will allow cans with light tin coating for shortening, animal food, coffee, beer, canned beans with tomato sauce and several other products now denied containers. The plan is understood to consider allowing packers tin containers for quotas up to 50 percent of their 1941 production, although some believe a lower figure may finally be agreed upon.

- - -

RAIL EMBARGO IS LIFTED ON FREIGHT FOR BUFFALO - The embargo against freight movement into Buffalo placed in effect last week when the city virtually was snow-bound, was lifted today by the Association of American Railroads.

The association had earlier eased its embargo to allow shipments of certain items including foods and coal.

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From The New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 26 -

PROTRACTED FIGHT DUE ON EXTENSION OF PRICE CONTROLS - Washington - Although the Office of Price Administration is seeking an early extension of price control laws, there is currently little chance that Congressional hearings into the extension can be started at an early enough date to assure passage of the laws by next spring.

Lacking the excuse of a war, OPA and Administration forces may be confronted with many more amendments to the laws than in earlier years. Opposition Senators and Representatives may well take the position that while price control authority should be extended for six months or a year beyond June 30, 1946, drastic changes should be made in the laws before extending them. The most common charge against OPA today is that price ceilings are impeding production and reconversion. This charge will undoubtedly receive a thorough airing before the committee.

- - -

COTTON MILL SALES FORECAST CHANGES IN CLOTH MARKETING - Ownership of nearly 2 percent of the nation's active cotton textile spindles changed hands within the past week as bidding for mill properties reached a new high tempo of trading. Further large transactions are reported in the negotiation stage which, added to the smaller properties that are constantly being sold, foreshadow new ownership for a substantial section of the country's cotton textile producing equipment in the postwar period.

Back of the move towards consolidation....is the attempt by industry leaders to control varying stages in the operations between raw cotton and the ultimate textile user with the prospect of attendant larger profits and closer control of production and merchandising policies. It foreshadows radical changes in the entire textile distribution system, many market observers believe.

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(Turn to page 4 for additional items  
from today's New York Journal of Commerce)

Farm Digest 2355-45

From The New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 26, (Cont.)

FLA. CANE HARVEST AHEAD OF SCHEDULE - Clewiston, Fla. - With the current sugar harvest now moving ahead of schedule, Clarence R. Bitting, president of the United States Sugar Corp., today reported a bright outlook for sugar production in the Everglades in 1946.

Indications are that the crop will exceed any of the recent wartime harvests, providing enough sugar for a month's supply for every person in the nation. Both the labor situation and the condition of the fields are better than they have been for some years.

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REFINED SUGAR DEMAND EXPANDS - Demand for refined sugar has shown considerable pickup. This demand will increase sharply as consumers' stamp No. 39 becomes available on Jan. 1.

To some extent refiners' position....will be aided by Cuba's decision to move up the start of the grinding season from Jan. 15 to Jan. 2. Until Cuban raws begin to arrive in volume, however, the shortage of sugar in the East will remain acute.

Writing of Cuba's plan for the crop, Mendoza & Co. of Cuba is urging that 300,000 tons, or 7-1/2 percent of the 4,000,000 Spanish tons production be set aside for sale to countries other than the United States.

"Cuban producers, with 7-1/2 percent quota on hand," he said, "could undoubtedly obtain 5¢ per pound in excess of the 3.675¢ offered by the United States and we will thus average 92-1/2 percent sold at 3.675¢, and 7-1/2 percent at 8.67-1/2, which gives us a general average of 4.05¢ per pound. If we finally obtain a 37-1/2¢ cut in the tariff, the price would be 4.42-1/2¢.

- - -

BUTTER - The market was increasing firm with an acute shortage in all channels. Probably 75 to 85 percent of New York city retail stores are running entirely out of goods and storekeepers are having great difficulty with customers, the great bulk of whom have no idea of the reasons behind the pinch.

\* \* \*

From The Kansas City Star, Dec. 12 -

SEEK FARM WAGE GUARANTEE - St. Louis - A guaranteed annual wage of \$625 for all types of farm labor was proposed yesterday to the Southern Tenant Farmers' union by its executive council.

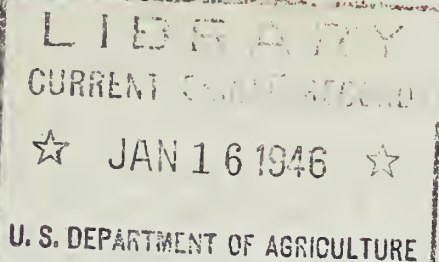
H. L. Mitchell, president of the union, submitted the council's recommendation to the 125 delegates who represent 27,000 members in Southern Missouri, Arkansas and Tennessee at the union's convention here.

He said the current average wage of the tenant farmers is about \$400 a year, and in attempting to increase this amount, he declared the union must enter into contract with landowners for a basic wage of .5 a working day with a guaranteed annual minimum of \$625.

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DAILY FARMER'S DIGEST  
(December 27, 1945)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
Washington 25, D. C.

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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 27 -

PHILIPPINES LACK RICE, Manila - The Philippines' 1945 rice crop is 500,000 tons below normal, a 50 per cent shortage, High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt said today....

- - -

WOOL CONTROL CHANGE - After managing Australia's wool fortunes throughout the war, the Central Wool Committee has gone out of business. It has been replaced by the Wool Realization Commission which has begun the disposal of the country's wool stocks in cooperation with Britain, New Zealand and South Africa, the Australian Information Bureau reports....

- - -

FOOD AND CLOTHES GIVEN OUT IN JAPAN, Tokyo - Allied Headquarters ordered the Japanese Government tonight to distribute free to the population 25,000 metric tons of food more than 70,000,000 yen at black-market prices, as well as more than 3,000,000 garments from former Japanese Army and Navy stores....

The signs that a hard winter is already here appeared in figures made public by the Tokyo metropolitan police board. These indicate that 40 per cent of the city's population is dependent to a greater or lesser degree on the emergency distribution of rice.....

The new daily, Mimpo, asserted today that large stocks of foodstuffs were being "hoarded" by the privileged class.....

- - -

REFRIGERATOR BOAT JOINS SHRIMP FLEET, New Orleans - When the Betty Jean steams down to the fishing grounds in Barataria Bay on her maiden commercial voyage she will be equipped to process and quick-freeze 125 barrels of shrimp each day and store a total of forty-four tons of the seafood. The forty-four-ton lugger-type vessel is the first mechanically refrigerated vessel to be used for commercial fishing in this region.....

- - -

MOVE TO SET UP JACKSON HOLE PARK, Cheyenne, Wyo - Incorporation papers were filed today with the Secretary of State for a 1,280-acre Jackson Hole Game Park, a wildlife exhibit to be located on western Wyoming land, owned by the Rockefeller family.... As described by Mr. Fairfield Osborn, a trustee, this division will be the first unit of the 32,000-acre land holdings of the Rockefeller interests in that part of Western Wyoming to be developed for conservation and exhibit purposes....

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(Turn to page 2 for other items from today's New York Times)

Farm Digest 2365-45-1

From the New York Times, Dec. 27 (Cont) -

ONE LUNCH BUREAU SET UP IN SCHOOLS - A Bureau of School Lunches was created by the New York City Board of Education at its regular meeting yesterday. The bureau, it was explained later will consolidate and centralize the four school lunch services now in existence. Simultaneously the board appointed Lieut. Col. Harvey Allen to head the new bureau....

- - -

SUGAR FRAUD WATCHED - All sugar ration stamps turned in by grocers are now being put through a "fingernail test" at the Office of Price Administration verification center to detect home tailoring.....to cheat on their rations. Some housewives have cut the "38" from the spare stamp and pasted it over the number of some obsolete sugar stamp.....

- - -

From the New York Herald Tribune, Dec. 27 -

ARCHBISHOP TO TAKE OWN FOOD TO ROME, Whitman, Mass. - When Cardinal-designate Francis J. Spellman goes to Rome in February to receive the red hat of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church he and his party will take their own food along because the "people of Italy are close to starvation," he said today.....

- - -

RECRUITS SAIL ON 19 VESSELS; 18 STILL DELAYED - The number of ships delayed in New York Harbor by crew shortages was cut in half yesterday as War Shipping Administration recruitment offices and maritime union halls saw slightly increased numbers of experienced seamen reporting for assignments after the Christmas holiday....The number of ships delayed in this port fell to eighteen from a high of thirty-seven on Saturday. At ports outside New York it was reported that ships waiting to fill crew vacancies to sail had dropped from a high of seventy-three on Saturday to fifty-nine yesterday afternoon.....

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From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 27 -

FINE CATTLE INSPECTED - Baltimore county has bright prospects in the export of pure bred livestock to South America, according to G. N. DeAraujo, economic counsellor to the Brazilian Embassy.

Mr. DeAraujo who recently completed a tour of inspection of several live stock breeding establishments in the county, said postwar prosperity in his country had created an active demand for the type animal he has seen on his visit. He asserted that many Brazilian farmers, who formerly bought steers to fatten for the market, now find it more profitable to breed their own stock.

"The fact that our ranchers are restocking and improving their herds can be of invaluable economic importance to regions such as Maryland," Mr. DeAraujo declared.

He emphasized the necessity of arranging for special cattle boats to run between mid-Atlantic ports and South America on fixed schedules and at low freight prices.....

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New York  
From the Journal of Commerce, Dec. 27 -

JAPS NEED 80,000 BALES U.S. COTTON - Tokyo - Approximately 60 percent of Japan's raw cotton imports will consist of middling to strict low middling 7/8-inch staples, if she is allowed to buy from the United States the desired quantities of cotton to manufacture textiles for a limited Asiatic export market, according to officials of the Japan Textile Association.

The remainder of the cotton desired would consist of 10 percent strict middling in staples longer than 1-inch and 30 percent strict middling 15-16.

While SCAP announced last month that Japan would be allowed to import cotton in 1946, specific amounts have not as yet been announced.

That Japanese Government, however, has applied to GHQ for permission to import 2,880,000 piculs, or 80,000 bales. It is held here that this quantity of raw cotton is all that the industry can handle at present.

Japanese manufacturers have stated that they can use 1,149,000 bales of cotton a year to supply an estimated domestic demand for 2,197,000,000 square yards of cotton cloth.

The Japanese believe that all of their raw cotton purchases will have to be made in the United States.

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SELLING OF CCC WOOLS SEEN HURT BY DEALER ELIMINATION - Boston - Raw wool consumption is kept at a high rate though topmakers and worsted mills remain out of the market. A conservative attitude is everywhere seen regarding domestic wool. Prices will have to be further reduced in order to start wool moving. Current values of domestic wool still favor the imported material. Handlers are not overpleased at not being allowed to purchase domestic wool unless they are processors or semi-processors.

The object of commodity is to liquidate heavy Government holdings and in the opinion of many observers here this Government agency is overlooking a potential outlet by preventing dealers from performing their normal function in selling to the mills. Opinion is general here that prices on native wools will have to be lowered further in order to be on a competitive basis with foreign wool and thus attract the confidence of consumers.

- - - -

NEW ARCHDALE FACTORY TO MAKE RAYON ITEMS - Archdale, N.C. - A new industry for Randolph County, to be located at Archdale, was indicated by the filing of a certificate of incorporation of the Archdale Manufacturing Co., Inc.

The company will engage in the manufacture of women's apparel and bedspreads of nylon, rayon and other synthetic and fiber materials.

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N. Y. COTTON EXCHANGE NEW YEAR BOOK PUBLISHED - The publication of the 1944 Cotton Year Book of the New York Cotton Exchange was announced yesterday by Elmer S. Bonner, chief statistician, under whose direction the book was prepared. It is the seventeenth annual edition of what is recognized as a standard reference work on the world cotton trade. Several new tables on subjects of interest to the cotton trade have been added, such as a history of Government loan programs, month-end stocks of Government-controlled cotton, data on total end per capita consumption of cotton and other apparel fibers in the United States.

(Turn to page 4 for additional items - - - -  
from today's Journal of Commerce)



From the New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 27, (Cont.)

WEATHER PREVENTS PICKING BALANCE OF COTTON CROP - Memphis - Scarcity of labor and unprecedented bad weather for this time of year in this area is causing serious setbacks in harvesting, and growers readily admit that much of the cotton in the fields will never be picked. Many cotton producers are resorting to "snapping" their cotton in order to save as much of the crop as possible.

In line with these primitive methods of harvesting, quality of the new crop is confined almost wholly to the lower and medium grades.

Mill demand was heavier and Memphis merchants are confidently expecting a sharp increase in trade in this department after the turn of the year.

Growers' offerings to the loan and purchasing plan remained practically nil, private firms making the highest bids for cotton to fill their close commitments.

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NYLON YARN EXPANSION PLANNED FOR CANADA - Kingston - Canadian Industries, Ltd., nylon division, plans an enlargement of the plant here in each of the next five years, it is announced by R. G. Beck, district manager. The company is now working on a \$4,000,000 addition to be in operation next year.

Mr. Beck stated the company plans to make in its plan here the flake from which nylon is made, bringing the salt solution to Canada from the United States. During the war years the plant has been importing the flake from the United States. This new arrangement will likely cut down cost of operation.

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CANNERS' HOLDINGS OF CORN REDUCED - Stocks of canned sweet corn for civilian account in canners hands as of Dec. 1, as reported by the National Canners Association, were 12,914,000 actual cases. Of this total 2,366,000 cases were held in Eastern States and 10,548,000 cases in Western States.

Civilian carryover stocks on Aug. 1 this year were estimated at 100,000 cases. The pack was placed at 28,237,000 cases, with the total supply on hand as the season opened 28,337,000 cases. Expected Government purchases from the 1945 pack are 700,000 cases, while estimated civilian supply is figured at 27,637,000 cases.

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OPA MODIFIES SUGAR REGULATION - Washington - Requirements for the repayment of sugar used by manufacturers in food products made for exempt Government agencies but never delivered to them, because of the termination or cancellation of their buying contracts, have been modified, the OPA announced today. The changes are to relieve manufacturers of foods for the Army and Navy from hardship, and are effective today.

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COLLEGES ACTIVE IN FROZEN FOODS - A survey just completed among 100 leading schools and State universities to determine the extent of their activities in the field of frozen foods, disclose that more than 50 percent of the schools covered are either conducting frozen food experiments or planning such experiments, according to Refrigerated Equipment Manufacturers' Association. Most of the experiments are directed toward retaining the fresh flavor of fruits, vegetables, meats and dairy products without losing the vitamin content and nutritive value of the food.



, From The Des Moines Register, Dec. 22 -

PLAN A FARM INSTITUTE HERE ON FEB. 15-16 - The National Farm institute will be resumed in Des Moines in 1946 after having been called off during the war due to the ban on conventions and travel.

Kirk Fox, editor of Successful Farming and chairman of the 1946 program committee of the institute, announced Saturday that the dates of Feb. 15 and 16 have been set for the first postwar meeting. The subject of the 1946 institute will be "The Peacetime Challenge to Agriculture."

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From The Des Moines Register, Dec. 22 -

IOWAN CONVERTS GRAIN BINS INTO COZY, MODERN HOMES - Storm Lake, Ia. - Frank G. Lawson, local service station operator has attracted statewide attention in his enterprise--that of converting surplus grain bins into homes.

The bins, built by the government six years ago for storing surplus grain, recently became available to civilian purchasers. They come in three sizes, 14 by 24 feet, 14 by 20 and 12 by 16. The largest size costs \$280 delivered.

Lawson has purchased 150 of them. More than 20 already have been moved to Storm Lake from Sac and Clay counties. Some have been resold to buyers in nearby towns.

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From The Des Moines Register, Dec. 21 -

TELLS OF CO-OP EXPANSION PLAN - Plans to increase the volume of business of Consumers Cooperative Association to 100 million dollars by 1950 were presented to representatives of member associations in Iowa by the President, Howard A. Cowden, at a meeting Thursday in Hotel Kirkwood.

The co-op wholesale, which has headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., did more than 26 million dollars of business last year and made net savings for its members totaling \$1,766,507.

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From The Western Tobacco Journal,

ONE WEEK "SALES HOLIDAY" ADDED TO CHRISTMAS RECESS-- Lexington, Ky. - A one-week "sales holiday" was tacked on to the customary week's Christmas recess at tobacco markets throughout the burley belt yesterday to enable redrying plants to process a heavy backlog of sold leaf.

E. J. Clint, supervisor of government graders, said the markets would close Dec. 22 and would reopen Jan. 7. Under normal conditions, post-Christmas sales would be resumed Dec. 31.-

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From The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 24 -

WISCONSIN FARM AUCTIONS BRING SPIRITED BIDDING - Milwaukee - There are still as many farm auction bills being hung as ever in Wisconsin, and farmers are bidding brisk and high for the livestock and second hand equipment. In the biggest farm auction ever held in the state, the livestock and equipment from six farms of Better Farms, Inc., near Fond du Lac were sold in a four-day sale, bringing \$106,000 exclusive of the land, 3,300 acres. All the tractors and trucks brought ceiling prices and the seven auctioneers working the sale had to draw lots.

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Farm Digest 2365-45

From The Chicago Daily Tribune, Dec. 22 -

CHICAGO STOCK YARDS 80 YEARS OLD - The 80th anniversary of the opening of the Union Stock yards, the world's largest cash market for live stock, is Christmas day.

Since the yards were opened Dec. 25, 1865, nearly 950 million animals--cattle, sheep, hogs, and horses--have been sold for approximately 24 billion dollars.

Shortly before the Union Stock yards were founded, seven rival yards were scattered thruout the city.

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From The Milwaukee Journal, Dec. 23 -

POWDER PLANT LAND IS SOLD - St. Paul, Minn. - Sixteen hundred acres, or, almost three fourths, of 2,256 acres of land declared surplus at the site of the Badger Ordnance Works in Sauk county, Wisconsin, were sold in nine transactions up to the close of business Thursday, the dead line for priority purchases.

Four of the purchases were farmers from whom the government obtained the land four years ago to establish the ordnance site. Two purchasers were veterans of World War II. The largest tract sold was 768 acres of timber land purchased by the state of Wisconsin for use in connection with Devils Lake State Park. The ninth buyer was an individual who bought as the highest bidder.

"The nine sales that have just been completed bring in \$23,000 against \$52,000 cost to the government," Johnson said. He said that of the \$112,000 which the government had paid for the land it would recover approximately \$54,000, "an unusually high recovery rate."

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From The Chicago Journal of Commerce, Dec. 21 -

FLOORS FOR FARMERS - Editorial - Parity formulas, of course, leave much to be desired. They merely set the stage for the race of farm incomes with industrial wages, and whenever either gets ahead the other must catch up. That process is going on now and the end is not yet in sight.

If everybody is convinced that the men and women who grow our food and raise our cattle cannot survive on their incomes from an unregulated agricultural economy, by all means let's be honest about it. If it is necessary to subsidize a major population group, let's do it openly--without all the pious rigamarole evolved by the political farmers in the Department of Agriculture and in Congress. If we really believe that we all need a subsidy merely to be on an equal footing with our neighbors, we can't be saved from our folly in any case.

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From The Kansas City Star, Dec. 19 -

FARM DEBT IS LOWER - Wichita, Kans. - A picture of reduced farm debt and increased farm values in Kansas was given to directors of the fifty Kansas National Farm Loan associations in annual meeting here yesterday.

Kansas farmers have made wise use of increased wartime income, cutting Federal Land bank loans from 1937 all-time peak of 144 million dollars to 48 million dollars, C. G. Shull, president of the Wichita Federal Land bank, told the directors.

Secretary-treasurers of the member associations reported increases in farm land prices since World War II began, ranging from 100 to 200 percent on Western Kansas wheat land down to 25 percent in a considerable area of Eastern Kansas,

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Farm Digest 2365-45



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(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the New York Times, Dec. 28 -

DOUBT FARM PRICES RISE WITH WAGES, Chicago - Farm income is not dependent on wage earners, Profs. Frank A. Pearson and Don Pearlberg of Cornell University asserted today in a joint paper read before the annual meeting of the American Farm Economic Association.

Taking issue with the current theory that the way to insure farm prosperity was to increase the pay envelope of the wage earners, the authors said:

"Farm prices are dependent not on one but on many factors, and these factors are world-wide rather than national," adding that no consistent long-time relationship has ever existed between wages and food prices in the United States....

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CPA WILL SPEED LOW-COST SUITS, Washington - The Civilian Production Administration is starting in the new year a low-cost clothing program designed to replenish the empty racks of men's and boys' low and medium-priced suits and overcoats. J. D. Small, administrator of the agency, stated today.

Mr. Small estimated that a minimum of 3,500,000 men's and boys' suits in the lower brackets would be produced in the first three months of 1946. He said he expected that the men's suits to be made under the plan would sell at retail at and below \$32.....

With 23,000,000 yards of wool fabrics earmarked for use in the less expensive garments in the first quarter of 1946, Mr. Small contemplated, in addition to suits the production of 7,000,000 pairs of men's and boys' trousers and 1,500,000 overcoats and topcoats in the first three months of next year....

- - -

ODT WILL END STORAGE DIVISION, Washington - The Office of Defense Transportation announced today that its storage division would be liquidated Dec. 31. but that most emergency warehouse associations would continue to work with the War Department until July 1. The division set up the associations in thirty-four major transit cities and ports. Warehousemen in the associations set aside 10 per cent of their capacity for Government storage.....

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HEAVY RAINS BATTER NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, San Francisco - Highways were blocked in parts of northern California, flood dangers appeared in the valleys of the Sacramento and Russian Rivers, and there were minor delays in rail traffic today as continuing downpours brought the rainfall to nearly double the seasonal normal....

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(Turn to page 2 for other items from today's New York Times.)

Farm Digest 2368-45-1

From the New York Times, Dec. 28 (Cont.) -

LITTLE MILK FOR BUTTER - With milk production for the New York market running lower than any December since 1938, the amount going into butter will be "negligible" for the second consecutive month, it was reported yesterday by the Federal-State Milk Marketing Administration....

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BRITISH UNIT IS SET UP FOR SURPLUS WOOLENS, London - It is expected a minimum of fifteen hundred British companies in the wool industry will participate in the new non-profit making organization set up under aegis of the Board of Trade to dispose of surplus wool cloth. The company known as the "Wool Industry Surplus Cloth Corporation" is intended to avoid mistakes made after the last war and to assure orderly disposal of vast government stocks of surplus wool cloth....

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COTTON IS ACTIVE OVER A WIDE RANGE - With some deliveries in the cotton futures market moving over a range in excess of a dollar a bale, final prices on the New York Cotton Exchange yesterday were 5 to 20 points net higher than on Wednesday, with distant months relatively stronger than nears.....

There were reports from the South that, owing to the unfavorable picking weather this fall, the quality of planting seed for next year will be inferior. Tests are said to show poor germination qualities.

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GRAINS IRREGULAR BUT WHEAT RISES, Chicago - Grain markets were unsettled today on the Board of Trade, wheat ranging higher with July at a new seasonal top and oats and rye easier. Wheat gained  $3/8$  to  $3/4$  cent net a bushel, September leading.....

Mill buying of July and September wheat combined with purchases attributed to Southwestern interests accounted for the strength in that grain and the finish was well toward the top.....

Scarcity of cash wheat is becoming more pronounced and mills are reported to be bartering for grain....

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12 INDICTED AS RING IN BIG TEXTILE PLOT, Boston - As the result of four months of investigation by special agents of the Office of Price Administration and the War Production Board, twelve defendants were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury today for alleged black-market activities in textiles....

Edmund J. Brandon, United States attorney declared that the market, which he asserted was flourishing, had become so serious that discharged veterans were unable to get clothing, sheets, bed clothes towels and other household necessities.

He said special agents of the OPA Currency Protection Branch had traced and found about 1,500,000 yards of finished cotton-piece goods diverted to the New York market at over-ceiling prices of 25 to 60 cents a yard.....

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From The New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 28 -

**KRAUT PACKERS TO STAGE PROMOTIONAL DRIVE** - Members of the National Kraut Packers' Association have approved plans for a promotional campaign designed to develop a broader market for the industry's increasing production. The campaign will be financed by an assessment of 25¢ per ton on all cabbage cut for kraut, to be levied on members of the national group.

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**CALIFORNIA SEES GOOD NAVEL ORANGE OUTPUT** - Los Angeles - There will be plenty of navel oranges this year, with good production of the larger and the popular medium sizes, the California Fruit Growers' Exchange reports.

The total navel crop this year is estimated at almost 45,000 cars, some 3,000 cars smaller than last year. Lower Government purchases and products manufacture, however, will allow more oranges to reach the civilian market than was the case last season, the exchange reports.

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**CANNED PEA SUPPLY DWINDLING** - Out of a total estimated civilian supply of canned peas of 35,898,000 cases for the current season, there remain 8,914,000 cases in packers' hands for civilian use, the National Canners Association reports. Last season total civilian supply was 19,647,000 cases, and civilian stocks Dec. 1 of that year were 4,921,000 cases.

Private estimates have indicated that the total pack this season was anywhere from 37,000,000 to probably 39,000,000 cases. Smallness of the amount remaining in packers' hands, sold and unsold, is an excellent illustration, trade authorities say, of the heavy unfilled demand existing for canned peas in various markets of the country.

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**PERMANENT FARM SUPPORT 'HARMFUL'** - Chicago - Permanent Government support and control of farm prices is "not desirable" because it would necessitate control by Government of agricultural production and the disposal of farm products, a University of Minnesota economist said today.

O. B. Jesness, chief of the university's division of agricultural economics, said in an address prepared for delivery to the American Farm Economic Association that permanent price support and control would invite expanded output, reduce consumption and lessen exports.

"Artificially high prices, moreover, would tend to be bid into higher land prices and thereby add to costs rather than to net incomes of farmers," he said.

Jesness declared that because of wartime agricultural expansion, problems of surpluses probably will return in the case of some farm products, but added that such surpluses should not be unmanageable as long as business and employment remain active.

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**SEE FLUID CREAM CEILING IMPENDING** - Butter--Receipts Dec. 26, 641,717 lbs. Butter supplies increasingly pinched here, local stores being shorter of goods than at any time. Bulk of the individual retailers are running entirely out of butter and some form of voluntary rationing is generally being followed. Production shrink from same time last year has risen to an average of 27 percent, a condition which it seems incredible for Government officials to permit to continue through a maladjustment in returns for butterfat. There was a rumor that Washington authorities were planning ceiling prices on fluid cream, but no official announcement.

(Turn to page 4 for other items from today's Journal of Commerce) Farm Digest 2368

From The New York Journal of Commerce, Dec. 28 (Cont.)

OCTOBER CANNED FOOD SHIPMENTS SET RECORD - Washington - Packer and distributor civilian shipments totaling 39,400,000 cases of canned fruit and vegetable products during the month of October represents an all-time record-high shipment for any single month, the Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce, reported today.

This compares with the previous corresponding non-rationing period of October, 1942, when shipments amounted to 31,600,000 cases and 31,800,000 cases in September, 1945.

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HAY AND FEEDS - The demand for feeds continued very heavy and offerings generally again fell far short of requirements. The situation was especially tight for millfeeds despite maintenance of a high rate of production except in the Buffalo area where storms caused some reduction in operations. A large percentage of the output still was moving in mixed cars or via truck and old contracts were reported to be absorbing the bulk of the balance with the result that offerings here were practically nil.

High protein meals also were almost impossible to obtain and offerings of other feeds found immediate outlets at full ceiling prices.

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CEREAL PRODUCTS - Mill shipments of corn meal showed no improvement and merchants reported a large waiting demand. A pick-up in corn marketing was anticipated after the new year, when taxes will be lower, but some trade spokesmen were of the belief that the expansion, if it does materialize, will only partly remedy the present situation.

The demand for bulk rolled oats still was fairly good although somewhat below the recent level and prices generally were fully maintained.

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CONDEMNED BEEF SLAUGHTER FEES CUT - Washington - A revised formula for determining maximum custom slaughtering fees that may be collected when beef or veal carcasses have been condemned by meat inspectors was announced today by OPA in describing an action that makes a number of other changes in meat pricing regulations.

In the case of condemned carcasses under former custom slaughtering provisions, the owner of the live stock bore all the loss, with the custom slaughterer retaining the entire carcass, including the hide.

This arrangement sometimes resulted in slaughterers receiving an excessive fee, since the hide is usually of enough value to cover the slaughtering fee and, in addition, the slaughterer could get 1¢ to 2¢ a pound for the carcass sold as soap grease.

To correct this condition, it is now provided that for condemned beef and veal carcasses the custom slaughterer will pay the owner of the live stock an amount computed as follows: For beef, he figures the value of the green hide at the established ceiling price, adds not less than \$1 per 100 pounds (dressed carcass, not weight), and deducts from the total not more than \$6 for carcasses weighing under 451 pounds, \$7 for those weighing between 451 and 650 pounds, or \$8 for those weighing 651 pounds and over. A comparable formula has been provided for use in the case of condemned veal carcasses.

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Farm Digest 2368-45



From Wallace's Farmer, Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 15 -

**MORE FOLKS GOT A TASTE OF BUTTER** - Editorial - Butter rationing is over now. Butter subsidies will soon be ended. What did the farmer get out of both?

Plenty of trouble while they lasted. More trouble when the subsidies end. But rationing and subsidies did do something to help the dairyman's post-war market.

If butter prices had been higher, and if there had been no rationing, folks with the best incomes would have gobbled up all the butter. People with smaller incomes would have been forced to use butter substitutes. By the end of the war, they would have forgotten what butter tasted like.

Through rationing, subsidies and price control, a big block of the population got some butter to eat--tho not as much as they wanted. It will be easier to sell these folks butter in the future than if high prices and lack of rationing had driven them to the use of other spreads.

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From the Prairie Farmer, Dec. 22 -

**REA MUST STAY ON THE JOB** - Editorial - Revival of the fight against REA, as disclosed in the last issue of Prairie Farmer, came as a surprise to most persons. They thought the issue had been settled long ago. The right of farmers to organize cooperatives for electrification seemed beyond question. But a powerful group of utilities apparently is determined to fight to the last.

In the face of the record of most utilities, we look with skepticism on their present claim that the job of rural electrification is almost done and that REA needs little--if any--more money to loan to cooperatives.

The utilities fighting REA have centered the attack on the few loans which have been granted for generating plants. They figure that they might talk Congress into prohibiting such loans where they would not stand a chance to halt additional distributing co-ops. So they say, "REA doesn't need any more money for distributing co-ops. If it asks any more money for this purpose, it is trying to fool you. Its real purpose is to finance generating plants in competition with established companies."

If this argument clicks, the utilities will have won their battle. REA loans will have to cease. The utilities will relax. Their present zeal to serve rural areas will evaporate. Millions of farmers once more will be pleading vainly for electricity.

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From Free Press, Burlington, Vt. - Dec. 11 -

**IMPROVING AGRICULTURE** - An attractive booklet entitled "A Blueprint for New England Agriculture" has just been issued by the New England Council's committee on agriculture and forestry. It offers 21 suggestions for improving New England agriculture's productive and marketing position.

It is stressed that in these days the farm must be run as a business "with just as much care and efficiency as will be found in any similar sized or capitalized industrial or urban business." The New England farm plant, now valued at \$740,000,000, according to the committee, can be improved through the better use of the land, better farm management, further use of agricultural research and the development of a sound financial program.

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From the Argus-Leader, Sioux Falls, S.D., Dec. 13 -

SEEK BETTER SEED TESTING - Brookings - Improved standards of seed testing, and agreement on uniform methods and reports, is sought in a current campaign by the Association of Official Seed Analysts, according to E. L. Erickson, assistant agronomist in charge of the agronomy seed laboratory at State college, and member of an international committee to study seed laboratories.

As a result of questionnaires now in the hands of seed laboratory officials in the United States and Canada, laboratories will be rated on the basis of equipment, personnel and space. Amount and quality of equipment for testing both purity and germination of seed samples, as well as disease tests, will be checked, Erickson said.

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From the Union, Manchester, N.H., Dec. 25 -

DRINKING OF MILK UP 23 PER CENT - Per capita consumption of fluid milk in Greater Boston has risen 23 per cent since 1940, says Samuel W. Tator, federal market administrator. Based upon consumption in the first 10 months of 1945, as compared with the same period in 1940, this figure does not take into account the current depression of milk sales occasioned by a seasonally short supply. The population of this area has increased from 2,020,078 in 1940 to 2,102,450 in 1945, or four per cent.

Consumption of fluid milk in the area has risen from 725,000 quarts per day during the first 10 months of 1940 to 927,000 quarts per day during the comparable period in 1945, or 28 per cent.

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From the Kansas City Times, Dec. 25 -

HAIL LOSS IS 10 MILLION - Topeka - Hail damage in Kansas during 1945 was estimated at \$10,698,500 - a new record, S. D. Flora, weatherman, reported today. Eighty-five severe hailstorms battered the state's crops in the year. Reports from the Western Hail and Adjustment association, summing up the Kansas hail risks and losses for Kansas companies, established a ratio of losses to risk at 7.17 per cent, compared with 5.38 per cent for the 5-year average and 4.58 per cent for the last thirty-one years.

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From the Times-Picayune, Dec. 24 -

CANE BYPRODUCT - Editorial - New uses for aconitic acid have developed an interest in its extraction from sugar cane molasses which has taken concrete form at a New Iberia sugar factory. The precipitation of calcium aconitate from "B" molasses promises to yield some 50 tons of this compound this season, besides improving the quality and yield of sugar. The acid is prepared from this derivative in commercial laboratories, by a process said to be less expensive than its synthetic preparation from citric acid. At this end of the chain, Emile K. Ventre, department of agriculture chemist, is working toward the goal of an aconitic acid extraction plant, which would mean the birth of a new chemical industry. Whether these ventures will lead to a new "vertical" industry in Louisiana, combining local manufacture with the use of a "new" sugar cane byproduct, is not altogether certain. Much will depend on the continued demand for the acid; on the economic superiority of the natural salts over synthetic sources; on the relation of supply to demand; and on costs of the separation process.

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Farm Digest 2368-45



(The newspapers and magazines from which these agricultural items are taken are on file in the Press Service, Room 411-A. Phone Gene Harrison at 6212.)

From the Journal of Commerce, New York, Dec. 29 -

COMMERCIAL EXPORTS EXPAND FURTHER AS LEND-LEASE DROPS--October non-Lend-Lease exports rose to \$380,000,000, a 7 per cent gain over the September 1945 value and 54 per cent above the average 1944 monthly figure of \$246,000,000, the Bureau of Census reported today. Non-Lend-Lease exports in October represented 84 per cent of the value of total exports compared with 69 per cent in September and an average of 21 per cent in 1944.

Meanwhile a further decline in total exports occurred with the aggregate falling to \$455,000,000, 38 per cent below the August level of \$737,000,000 and 12 per cent below the September value of \$515,000,000. Lend-Lease exports fell to \$75,000,000, from \$413,000,000 in August and \$158,000,000 in September.

General imports into the United States in October totaled \$344,000,000 and 10,617,000,000 pounds. While the October import value exceeded the September level of \$335,000,000 by a 3 per cent, the physical volume of imports in October was 18 per cent higher than the September shipping weight total.

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COTTON DECLINES BY 5 TO 12 POINTS--Trade buying and price fixing held cotton within a narrow price range yesterday on the New York Cotton Exchange although profit taking and considerable selling in the distant months eased the market to losses of from 5 to 12 points at the close.

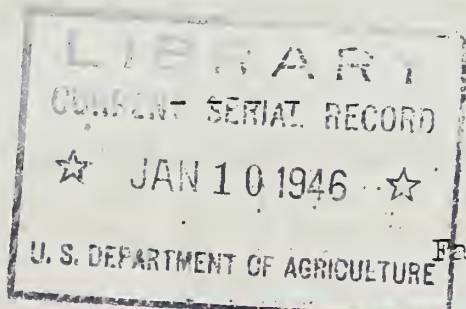
After an irregular opening with prices unchanged to 4 up and 4 down, hedge selling in the near months with more contracts available in the deferred deliveries halted the advance which in the two previous sessions had carried new crop months to gains from \$1.95 to \$2.20 a bale. Profit cashing in view of the highs scored featured much of the trading otherwise of a routine character in next to the final session of the year.

The mid-December parity price scheduled for publication after the market closed yesterday will be issued at 3 p.m. today. In most quarters an advance from the present price of 21.70c is expected.

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GRAPEFRUIT PACK OPERATIONS GAIN--Reports from Florida yesterday stated that practically all packers of grapefruit segments were preparing to operate during the coming week.

Labor shortages continue to be one of the main drawbacks to packing operations, however. It was pointed out that in canning of this product women are employed extensively and with the winter resorts in that State enjoying boom times many cannery workers are finding it difficult to secure sufficient help at the current cannery wage scales.

(Turn to page 2 for other items in today's New York Journal of Commerce.)





**SUGAR IMPORTS, ARE LOWER**--Sugar imports for the year to Dec. 22, according to trade estimates, amounted to 3,989,000 long tons raw value, a decline of 394,000 tons from the previous year. Meltings at 4,057,000 tons are 455,000 tons less than a year ago.

Stocks held by refiners amounted to 134,000 tons, or 33,000 tons less than a year ago. Of this quantity Atlantic port refiners held 69,000 tons against 73,000 tons a year ago, Willett & Gray figures reveal.

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**PROCESSED SWISS CHEESE REPRICED**--Cents-per-pound ceiling prices for sales of processed domestic Swiss cheese at all levels except at retail were announced today by the Office of Price Administration.

The specific manufacturers' and distributors' maximum prices become effective Jan. 3, 1946, and replace the former ceilings "frozen" at the Sept. 28 to Oct. 2 1942 base period level.

The flat ceiling prices are intended (as are maximum prices for most other manufactured dairy products) to reflect to producers of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent butterfat milk a return of \$.65 per 100 pounds.

The new prices are for sales, in Wisconsin, of the commodity made entirely from natural Swiss cheese, containing not more than 40 per cent moisture and not less than 43 per cent fat.

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**CCC AGAIN SEEKS FLOUR FOR EXPORT**--The CCC is seeking 800,000 sacks of hard and soft wheat flour enriched with purchases scheduled on Jan. 7 and 10. January and February delivery to Atlantic and Gulf ports will be required.

There also was a continued active foreign inquiry but the domestic demand was slow. Some increase in buying by bakers was expected around the turn of the month, but mill spokesmen indicated that this business probably would be of comparatively small proportions as mills will not be pressing sellers.

Cash wheat remained very scarce and firmly at ceilings and while this condition exists there will be no price shading in flour, it was pointed out, although hopes were entertained that larger marketings will be witnessed next month.

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**ERRATIC TRADING FEATURES GRAINS**--Deferred wheat deliveries continued to move higher in a slow trade at Chicago yesterday, while other grains reflected indecision of traders and finished irregular.

Receipts of all grains at terminal markets were small and the possibility of a material increase next month again was the principal topic of discussion. The consensus of opinion, however, was that the increase probably would prove to be disappointing and that the over all wheat and corn supply situation will continue tight during the coming month.

It was pointed out that farmers were reasonably secure in the expectation that wheat and corn prices will hold firmly over the next few months in view of the heavy requirements, and there was the ever-present possibility that any increase in parity prices would be followed by an advance in ceilings.

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**OPA DENIES PLANS TO RAISE WHEAT CEILING**--OPA said today it had no plans for increasing wheat ceiling prices at this time. The agency said its statement was prompted by "widely circulated" reports in the trade that there would be an increase.



From the New York Packer, Dec. 22 -

UNITED STATES ANTS OUT OF SUGAR BUSINESS, Grand Rapids, Mich. - Michigan fruit growers this week were closely watching efforts of the federal government to get out of the sugar business and turn control of the industry back to the industry.

The government sent Earl B. Wilson of Washington, director of the USDA sugar branch, to Michigan to confer with sugar beet growers and processors on ways to terminate sugar beet subsidies. He reported the government desires to quit paying growers \$4 a ton to grow beets. He also sounded out the industry relative to renewing or extending the 1937 marketing quota sugar act. This law expires a year from now.

Whatever course of action is taken may affect the fruit business in various ways. Any plan which might discourage sugar production would influence the home canning demand for fruit. For the past two seasons fruit growers have had first hand experience with the effect of sugar shortages on home canning...

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CINCINNATI TO BE HOST TO VEGETABLE GROWERS' GROUPS, Cincinnati - Two national and two state vegetable growers' associations are co-operating with three Cincinnati vegetable growers' associations to make the Cincinnati (February 3, 4 and 5) meeting of vegetable growers a meeting long to be remembered. This will be the 37th annual convention for the Vegetable Growers Association of America.....

The program theme is "Looking Ahead." This includes air transportation, new packaging methods, new insecticides and fungicides, new labor saving techniques, etc. The usual entertainment features will be resumed...

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From the Food Field Reporter, Dec. 24 -

FEDERAL FOOD DEHYDRATING PLANTS NOT UP FOR AUCTION, Washington - Jacob W. Wyckoff, chief of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's plant financing division, denies any of the 56 food dehydration plants built with federal funds during the war are enroute to the auction block.

His denial followed published reports based on a Bureau of Agricultural Economics release that the plants, representing \$12,000,000 in loans, "remain to be disposed of with the end of the war."

To the contrary, said Mr. Wyckoff, all the loans were made with reversionary purchase rights, many already have paid off sizable portions, and no notices have been received in recent months of intentions to turn plants back. Many are owned by cooperatives, he added.....

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From the Minneapolis Tribune, Dec. 15 -

FARMERS URGED TO SET POLICY - Most important job faced by Minnesota farmers will be to determine the agricultural policy of the next few years, Paul H. Miller, director of the state extension service, said Friday at the closing session of the annual agricultural extension conference at University of Minnesota.

He said the job of the county agent will be to supply all possible information on effect of support prices, parity prices and relations between producers and consumers....

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From the Salt Lake City Tribune, Dec. 5 -

FORESTRY AIDS WILL ATTEND STOCK MEETS, -Ogden- Officials from the U. S. forest service regional offices here will attend four major meetings of livestock growers of the intermountain area during January, it was announced Tuesday by W. B. Rice, regional forester.

The series include the Idaho Wool Growers' Assn. meeting in Boise, Jan. 6 to 8; the American National Livestock Assn. meeting in Denver, Colo., Jan. 10 to 12; the Utah Wool Growers Assn. meeting, Salt Lake City, Jan. 24 and 25, and the National Wool Growers' Assn. meeting in Salt Lake City, Jan. 27 and 30....

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From the Iowa Farm Register, Dec. 26 -

IOWA LEADS U. S. IN FOOD OUTPUT - Iowa farmers achieved a rate of food production during the war years which was well above the average increase for the remainder of the nation.

During the 1941-42-43-44 period the volume of Iowa crop and livestock production was 26.8 per cent greater than for the pre-war years of 1937-38, 39-40. The average national increase for the period was 19.7 per cent.

"This achievement, accomplished in the face of labor and machinery shortages, merits a resounding pat on the back of Iowa farmers," said state AAA Chairman A. J. Loveland....

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From the Chicago Daily Tribune, Dec. 25 -

CANDY SUPPLY TO REMAIN LOW THRUOUT 1946 - Because ingredients are scarce sufficient candy to satisfy public demand cannot be produced for at least the first nine months of 1946, Philip P. Gott, president of the National Confectioners' association, said yesterday. Public demand will be 700 million pounds above production, he predicted.

Gott asserted ingredients costs are likely to go up rather than down next year. Production in 1945 of many of the 77 agricultural products used in candy exceeded all records, but no surpluses with their possibility of lowered prices have appeared.....

- - -

From the Chicago Daily Tribune, Dec. 26 -

PREDICTS RAPID ELECTRIFYING OF U. S. FARMS - Rural electrification will advance rapidly in the next several years as farmers install more conveniences and labor saving machinery, the Square D company, Milwaukee and Detroit manufacturer of electrical equipment, predicted yesterday.

A survey by the company's 125 field engineers and representatives showed that farmers have more money available than formerly and are allocating substantial sums for electrical equipment. Factories making these items are oversold and the farm market demand for electrical switches has multiplied four times in the last seven months, the company said.





